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WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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NEARBY

Crime monitoring cell at every division

BENGALURU

To improve its image, the city police will strive to be more responsive and credible to achieve the best policing practice, said the 37th City Police Commissioner, C.H. Pratap Reddy, on Tuesday. To begin with, every division will have a crime monitoring unit.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 2

'Most accidents involve experienced drivers'

BENGALURU

A review of road accidents involving buses of the KSRTC has revealed that most of the accidents happened when experienced drivers were at the wheel. Among the accidents reported in 2022, 39% happened while drivers of the age group 41 to 50 were driving.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

JD(S) decides to field candidate for RS polls

BENGALURU/MYSURU

In what is likely to add a twist to the polls to elect four members to the Rajya Sabha from the State, the Janata Dal (Secular), despite not having the requisite number of votes, has decided to field its candidate. The BJP and the Congress are set to comfortably win two and one seats, respectively.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

OPPORTUNITIES ▸ BACK PAGE

Secure *Shivling* area in Gyanvapi mosque: SC

Court orders no impediments for Muslims offering *namaz*

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the District Magistrate of Varanasi to ensure the protection of the area where a *Shivling* was reported to be found, while ordering that Muslims should not be restricted or impeded from accessing the Gyanvapi mosque to offer *namaz* or perform religious observances.

"We are not disturbing anything but holding everything in balance," Justice D.Y. Chandrachud addressed the court after passing the interim order.

"This is a situation when everybody must cooperate," said Justice P.S. Narasimha, the pusine judge, who also spoke from the Bench.

The court, in order to "obviate any dispute", "restricted" a May 16 order of the trial judge, which led to the sealing of a portion of the mosque premises.

"We are balancing the reliefs till the next date of hearing... The District Magistrate will ensure that the place where the *Shivling* has been found will be protected, but this will not in any way restrict or impede the access of Muslims to the mosque for purpose of *namaz* or prayers as before," Justice Chandrachud observed.

Under watch: Security personnel standing guard outside the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, on Tuesday. • PTI

The trial judge had on May 16 "allowed" an application filed by several Hindu women claiming that a *Shivling* had been found near the *wazu khana* (place of ablution) during the inspection of the mosque premises by a Court Commission. The women had wanted the trial court to direct the local Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Commandant to seal the *wazu khana* and stop its use with immediate effect. The women's application had also sought the trial judge to order the District Magistrate to restrict entry of Muslims for *namaz* and not allow more than 20 of them to offer *namaz*.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Advocate removed from panel

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

A Varanasi court on Tuesday removed the original advocate commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra from his post in the video inspection commission of the Gyanvapi mosque for leaking information to the media through a private cameraman. It also granted the two remaining court commissioners two more days to submit a report on the videography on the mosque premises and the Shringar Gauri Sthal outside its western wall.

FULL REPORT ▸ PAGE 9

CBI books Karti in visa scam case

Searches held at 10 locations in 11-year-old case

S. VIJAY KUMAR
CHENNAI

Special teams of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday conducted simultaneous searches on the premises of Congress MP Karti P. Chidambaram and his associates at multiple locations in the country in connection with a visa scam that took place when his father, P. Chidambaram, was the Union Home Minister in 2011.

The CBI registered a case against Mr. Karti, his close associate S. Bhaskar Raman, private companies based in Mumbai, Mansa (Punjab), and unknown public servants and private persons. Searches were conducted at 10 places, including in Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Koppal (Karnataka), Jharsuguda (Odisha) and Mansa.

The CBI said that in 2011, Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd. (TSPL) was in the process of establishing a 1,980-MW thermal power plant at Mansa.

The work was outsourced to a Chinese firm, Shandong Electric Power Construction Corporation (SEPCO).

Since the project was running behind schedule causing huge financial repercussions in terms of penalty, interest on bank loans and so on, the company tried to bring in more Chinese, including professionals, to the work site for which it needed project visas over and above the ceiling imposed by the Home Ministry.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

No entry: A CBI official sending back Congress leader K. Selvaperunthagai from the residence of P. Chidambaram in Chennai on Tuesday. • R. RAVINDRAN

Governor gives assent to Ordinance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Amid opposition by Christian religious leaders, the State government on Tuesday promulgated the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Ordinance, 2022.

The Ordinance, which seeks to prohibit unlawful conversion from one religion to another by "misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or fraudulent means" was promulgated through a special gazette notification.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 5

Ukraine troops surrender in Mariupol steel plant: Russia

Kyiv doing 'everything necessary' for others trapped in mill

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KYIV

Russia said on Tuesday that 265 Ukrainian soldiers had surrendered at the besieged Azovstal steelworks in Mariupol, prompting Kyiv to call for a prisoner exchange.

Ukraine earlier said 264 fighters, including 53 wounded, were evacuated to Russia-controlled territory. For those still in Azovstal, it said it was doing "everything necessary".

SOLDIERS SHIFTED ▸ PAGE 11

War-torn: An injured soldier being transported on a stretcher from the Azovstal steel mill on Monday night. • REUTERS

Actor dies during fat reduction surgery

Family alleges negligence; doctor denies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A 21-year-old Kannada small screen actor died while undergoing a fat reduction surgery at a private hospital in Bengaluru on Monday. V. Chethana, a resident of Abbigere and daughter of K. Varadaraju, was admitted to Dr. Shetty's Cosmetic Centre in Rajajinagar for the surgery on Monday. Her family has alleged that she died due to a botched-up procedure.

However, the doctor, who performed the procedure, denied that there was any negligence, and said the actor developed fat embolism resulting in pulmonary edema soon after the three-hour procedure.

Actor V. Chethana

Case registered

Based on a complaint filed by Mr. Varadaraju, the Subramanyanagar police on Tuesday registered a case under section 174 C of the Cr.PC and are awaiting the post-mortem report.

Mr. Varadaraju alleged that the hospital did not have proper facility to conduct the surgery, and that the procedure was carried out without their knowledge and consent. Inquiry by the police revealed that Chethana had signed the papers, and a man identified as Madesha, claiming to be a relative of Chethana, had signed the consent form.

Chethana, who had acted in many serials and a Kannada movie, wanted to undergo the fat reduction surgery. When her parents objected, she went ahead, got admitted to the hospital, and paid ₹1.6 lakh, the family alleged.

The police said they would issue a notice to the doctor and share reports with the Medical Council of India. The management of Kaade Hospital, where Chethana was rushed to, told the police that around 5.30 p.m. on Monday, a doctor named Melvin, an anaesthetist, "barged into their hospital with a patient (who was found unresponsive later) disregarding all the protocols of the hospital and threatening the security".

"Before our doctors could intervene and check the patient, he pushed the patient into our ICU and demanded that our doctors treat the patient on the lines indicated by him as the patient had suffered a cardiac arrest during some procedure at Shetty's Cosmetic Centre," the report added.

The hospital further alleged, "No patient file or doctor's recommendatory notes or any other document depicting her condition was produced to us. On checking the patient, she was found to have no pulse, and on the insistence of Dr. Melvin and team, CPR was initiated and after trying for approximately 45 minutes, the patient could not be revived as it appeared that she was brought dead. Our doctors were forced by Dr. Melvin and team with threats and though they were aware that the patient was brought dead, we were coerced into declaring her dead only at 6:45 p.m., for the reasons best known to them."

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 3

'SHORTCUT TO GOOD LOOKS CAN BE DANGEROUS' ▸ PAGE 3

Torrential rain lashes city; low-lying areas inundated

Rain fury: Incessant rain resulted in heavy flooding on Mysuru Road, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. • K. MURALI KUMAR (MORE PHOTOS ON PG 2)

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Motorists in several parts of the city had to go through inundated roads following torrential rain on Tuesday. The rainfall, which started by evening, intensified by night, with lightning and thunder, and resulted in long traffic jams. Many vehicles broke down, especially in areas like Hebbal, Silk Board, Mysuru Road and Bommanahalli.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) had sounded an orange alert for the day.

Commuters struggled to get cabs and autorickshaws "I left my workplace at Cunningham Road for my home in Jayanagar, but a few minutes later it started raining heavily, and I could not find cabs even after trying for 15 minutes. I had to ask a relative who works nearby to drop me home," said Varsha, a private sector employee. "The roads, including those in the CBD, were waterlogged through my 12 km ride back home late in the evening. It took me much longer than usual to finally reach home," said Ira, who works on MG Road. While water came up to 4 ft. on Mourya Road, it was almost 3 ft. in Chickpet, Sultanpet and Nagarthpet. Even the Sirsi Circle flyover was flooded by 10 p.m. Flooding was reported from Majestic, Corporation, Nagarthpet, Shantinagar, Kodigehalli, Jalahalli, Peenya, Goraguntepalya, Thyagarajnagar, Guttahalli, Richmond Town, Okalipuram, and around the CBD.

As water began entering houses, BBMP control room received complaints from Hosakerehalli, Jayanagar, Shivajinagar, Mahalakshmipuram, Basaweshwarnagar, J.C. Nagar, JJR Nagar, HSR Layout, Koramangala, SVR Layout, Bommanahalli, Hulimavu, BC Palya, Malleswaram and other low-lying areas.

Two domestic flights to KIA from Rajahmundry and Kolkata were diverted to Chennai. Namma Metro services on the Green Line were temporarily disrupted owing to the tripping of the transformer.

School opened, but without teachers in this village

The 12 students of the government school at Malavi village had to return home as dept. had not deputed any teacher

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HASSAN

Schools reopened across Karnataka on Monday, but the Government Higher Primary School at Malali village in Hosanagar taluk of Shivamogga district has remained closed. The 12 students of the school who turned up eagerly on Monday morning had to return home because the school has no teachers deputed.

Parents of two new students who had come to school seeking admission too had to turn back.

The same situation persisted on Tuesday and parents, with the children, staged a protest. They refused to leave the place until a senior official visited and promised action. Umesh, a resident of Malali village, said the school had a sanctioned strength of two teachers. However, the Department of Primary and Secondary Education had not deputed any one. Last year, guest lecturers were appointed to the school. However, this year, though the department had declared May 16 as the day to reopen school, the officers had not made any arrangements. "In fact, we parents had sent sweet boxes with our children on Monday as it was the first day of the school in the academic year. But there was no teacher to welcome them or take classes. Our children returned home disappointed," he said.

The residents of the village alleged that the government was not giving attention to strengthening government schools. "Two students had come to school on Monday seeking admission. As there were no teachers, the parents decided to take them to a private school," said another protester.

Parents decided to withdraw the protest after cluster resource person Ravikumar visited the school on Tuesday. Other senior officers of the department called up the protesters over phone and said that a guest teacher would be appointed immediately and a permanent teacher would be allotted to the school within a couple of months, as the recruitment process had already begun.

Children and their parents staged a protest at Malali village in Hosanagar taluk of Shivamogga district on Tuesday to highlight the problem of lack of teachers. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

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Text & Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

Weak debut

8.6 In percentage, the discount at which the Life Insurance Corporation's (LIC) shares were listed on the stock exchanges. As against the issue price of ₹949, shares of LIC were listed at ₹872, a discount of ₹81.80 apiece, on the BSE. The listing price was also below the price at which shares were allotted to LIC policyholders, employees and retail investors. LIC had fixed the issue price of its shares at ₹949 apiece after a successful initial public offering, which was over subscribed nearly three times when it closed on May 9. PTI

Nabbed after decades

4 The number of men arrested in connection with the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case by the Gujarat Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS). Abu Bakar, Saiyad Qureshi, Mohammad Shoeb Qureshi alias Shoeb Bawa and Mohammad Yusuf Ismail alias Yusuf Bhatka, all residents of Mumbai, were on the run for 29 years, officials said. At present they have been booked for allegedly obtaining passports on the basis of forged documents for fleeing the country in 1993. They will be handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for further investigation. PTI

Surprise rally

2.5 In percentage, the gains logged by benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty on Tuesday — their best single-day gains in three months. The 30-share BSE benchmark zoomed 1,344.63 points or 2.54% to settle at over a one-week high of 54,318.47 points with all of its constituents closing with gains. The broader NSE Nifty rallied 417 points or 2.63% to finish at 16,259.30 points. All the 50 stocks advanced led by steel and energy stocks. Among Sensex stocks, Tata Steel emerged as the lead gainer, rising by 7.62%. PTI

Record high

15.08 In percentage, India's wholesale price inflation (WPI) in April. The WPI shot up to a record high of 15.08% in April after the heatwave led to a spike in prices of perishables such as fruits and vegetables. This is the 13th month of double-digit inflation and arguments of a low base no longer hold. The last time WPI inflation was higher than this was in August 1991, when it was at 16.06%. Inflation in food articles was 8.35% while in vegetables it was 23.24%. PTI

Access to bicycles

78.9 The percentage of households in West Bengal that have bicycles — the highest in the country, as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5). While the national average is 50.4%, U.P. holds the second rank with 75.6% of households owning a bicycle. Nagaland has the lowest number of households owning a bicycle at 5.5% . A government official said the top spot could be bagged because of the State government's 'Sabooj Sathi' scheme. 1,03,97,444 students have received bicycles under the scheme. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

Gyanvapi and the Places of Worship Act

What has the Supreme Court directed? When is the next hearing on the lawsuit related to the Gyanvapi mosque?

THE GIST

- The Supreme Court directed the District Magistrate of Varanasi to ensure protection of the area at the Gyanvapi mosque complex where a 'shivling' is said to have been found during the survey there.
- The Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 was enacted to freeze the status of all places of worship in the country as on August 15, 1947.
- Lawyers for the Gyanvapi mosque administration argue that the ongoing civil cases filed by Hindu devotees constitute an attempt to change the status of the place of worship and violates the Act. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, however, contends that the Places of Worship Act is not applicable to the Gyanvapi issue, as there was no change to the religious structure since 1947.

K. VENKATARAMANAN

The story so far: The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the District Magistrate of Varanasi to ensure protection of the area at the Gyanvapi mosque complex where a 'shivling' is said to have been found during the survey there. (The caretakers of the mosque said that the said object was not a 'shivling' but a part of a stone fountain in the *wazu khana* (ablution tank) of the mosque.)

While hearing the plea of the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, which manages the affairs of Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi, challenging the video survey a Bench comprising Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and P.S. Narasimha, ordered that Muslims could continue offering 'namaz' there without any impediment. The top court posted the plea of the mosque committee, which had invoked the Places of Worship Act while seeking a stay on the survey, for hearing on May 19.

What does the Places of Worship Act say?

In March 2021, the Supreme Court asked the Centre to respond to a petition that challenges the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. The law was enacted to freeze the status of all places of worship in the country as on August 15, 1947. An exception was made to keep the Babri Masjid-Ramjanmabhoomi dispute out of its ambit as the structure was then the subject of litigation. The dispute ended after the court ruled that the land on which the Masjid stood should be handed over to the Hindu community for the construction of a Ram temple. The challenge to the Act questions the legality of the prohibition it imposes on any community laying claim to the places of worship of another.

The Act says that no person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination into one of a different denomination or section. It contains a declaration that a place of worship shall continue to be as it was on August 15, 1947. Significantly, it prohibits any legal proceedings from being instituted regarding the character of a place of worship, and declares that all suits and appeals pending before any court or authority on the cut-off date regarding the conversion of the character of a place of worship shall abate. In other words, all pending cases will come to an end, and no further proceedings can be filed. However, any suit or proceedings relating to any conversion of status that happened after the cut-off date can continue.

In which cases will the law not apply?

The 1991 Act will not apply in some cases. It will not apply to ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains that are covered by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. It will also not apply to any suit that has been finally settled or disposed of, any dispute that has been settled by the parties before the 1991 Act came into force, or to the conversion of any place that took place by acquiescence.

The Act specifically exempted from its purview the place of worship commonly referred to at the time as Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid in Ayodhya. It was done to allow the pending litigation to continue as well as to preserve the scope for a negotiated settlement.

The Act specifically exempted from its purview the place of worship commonly referred to at the time as Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid in Ayodhya.

Anyone contravening the prohibition on converting the status of a place of worship is liable to be imprisoned for up to three years, and a fine. Those abetting or participating in a criminal conspiracy to commit this offence will also get the same punishment.

What has the Supreme Court said on the status freeze?

In its final verdict on the Ayodhya dispute, the Supreme Court had observed that the Act "imposes a non-derogable obligation towards enforcing our commitment to secularism".

The court went on to say: "Non-retrogression is a foundational feature of the fundamental constitutional principles, of which secularism is a core component."

The court described the law as one that preserved secularism by not permitting the status of a place of worship to be altered after Independence. In words of caution against further attempts to change the character of a place of worship, the five-judge Bench said, "Historical wrongs cannot be remedied by the people taking the law in their own hands. In preserving the character of places of public worship, Parliament has mandated in no uncertain terms that history and its wrongs shall not be used as instruments to oppress the present and the future."

How is the Act likely to affect the Gyanvapi proceedings?

The lawyers for the Gyanvapi mosque administration argue that the ongoing civil cases filed by Hindu devotees constitute an attempt to change the status of the place of worship and violates the Act. From entertaining the litigation, to orders such as appointing a commissioner to conduct a survey, the survey itself and the latest order to seal off a portion following the claim that a 'shivling' has been found are all contrary to the 1991 Act.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, however, contends that the Places of Worship Act is not applicable to the Gyanvapi issue, as there was no change to the religious structure since 1947, and that Hindus have always been performing puja at the site.

The outcome of the case will depend on whether the courts deem the proceedings contrary to the Act, or rule that it is not applicable to the dispute in Varanasi.

Under dispute: The Gyanvapi Mosque after its survey by a commission, in Varanasi on Tuesday, May 17. • PTI

EXPLAINER

Boon to ban: How the wheat export story changed in two months

What were the reasons for this sudden decision by the Government?

THE GIST

- As Russia and Ukraine, the largest exporters of wheat were at war, India has been looking forward to fill this gap by boosting its own exports.
- However, food security campaigners insisted on a cautious approach. They argued that ensuring the stability of prices and the availability of grain for internal consumption should be the top two priorities than increasing exports.
- The extreme temperatures recorded in March and April, across North India, were the reason behind the sudden turnaround of the government, forcing them to ban wheat exports.

VIGNESH RADHAKRISHNAN

The story so far: On May 13, the government effectively banned the export of wheat.

What happened?

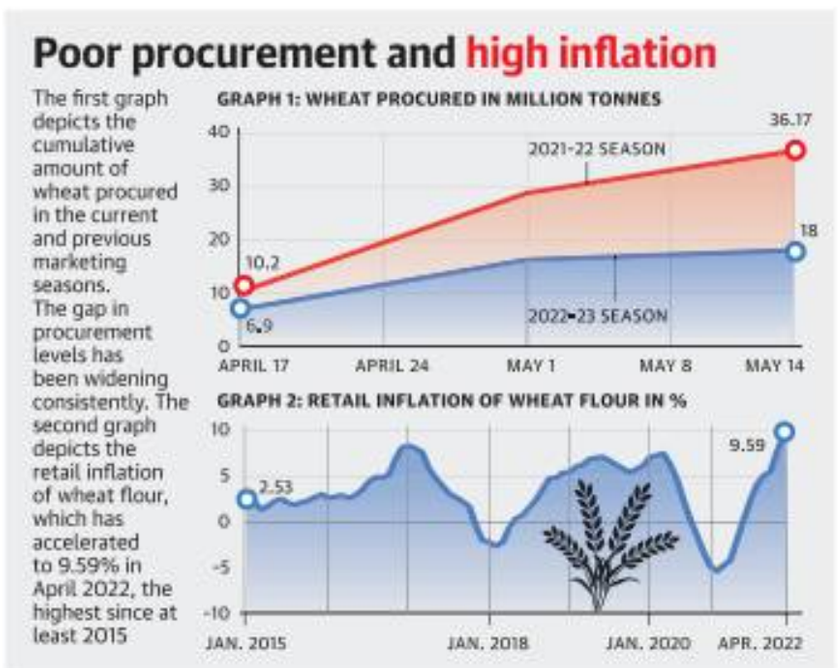
On March 25, to a supplementary question raised by Congress leader Anand Sharma in the Rajya Sabha regarding improving wheat exports, given that Russia and Ukraine the two large exporters of the commodity were in the middle of a war, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal answered that Prime Minister Narendra Modi wants the flavour of India's wheat to capture the entire world's taste buds.

The Minister said that "we are working on the track of increasing our wheat exports to the current importers. Agriculture Ministry is in dialogue with various countries for the process to be speeded up and expedited so that newer markets for wheat can be sought."

The efforts to increase wheat exports continued even as recently as May 12 when the Centre decided to send trade delegations to Morocco, Tunisia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey, Algeria and Lebanon to "explore possibilities of boosting wheat exports," a PIB press release said.

However, food security campaigners had insisted on a cautious approach from the start.

Their reasons were two-fold. They argued that ensuring the stability of prices in India and the availability of grain for internal consumption should be the top two priorities for the Indian government than increasing exports. The increase in exports should not be done at the cost of domestic consumption, especially with the recent expansion of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) program, they cautioned.



Why were wheat exports banned?

Eventually, the food security experts' warnings came true.

On May 4, the government revised down its wheat production estimates from 111.32 million tonnes (MT) to 105 MT for the crop year ending June. According to the *Press Trust of India*, 18 MT of wheat were procured till May 14 of the ongoing 2022-23 marketing year, much less than the 36.7 MT in the year-ago period.

So, the decrease in production estimates and a considerable fall in wheat procurement raised concerns that domestic consumption may get impacted. Moreover, the local prices started to rise. In March, the wholesale inflation of wheat crossed the 14% mark, though it eased a bit to about 10% in April.

In April, retail inflation of wheat flour accelerated to 9.59% from an already higher 7.77% in March. As of May 17, the average retail price of wheat flour was ₹33.05 per kg. The maximum price had touched ₹59/kg.

Both these factors forced the government to ban wheat exports on May 13, two days after the decision to send delegates to nine countries to explore the option of enhancing exports was taken. The Centre relaxed its export ban order on Tuesday by allowing consignments that were registered in the Customs Department's systems and handed over for examination on or prior to May 13. They have also allowed a consignment headed for Egypt.

What led to the decrease in production?

The extreme temperatures recorded in March and April, across north India, were the reason behind the sudden turnaround of the government.

For instance, across Punjab, between April 8 and 14, the maximum temperature was over 6°C higher than the usual, compared to the long period average. The actual maximum temperatures have been consistently hovering over the 40°C mark across the State in April. The extreme heat led to a marked decrease in wheat yields across north India. For instance, in Punjab, crop cutting experiments showed that the wheat productivity was below 18 quintals per acre this year, down from the average yield of 19.7 quintals per acre last year.

Hence, the wheat arrivals in Punjab's mandis were 20% lower in the first twenty days of the 2022 season compared to the same period in 2021. In the first twenty days, 73 lakh metric tonnes of wheat had reached the mandis in 2022, compared to the 92.4 lakh recorded in 2021.

INTERVIEW | C.H. PRATAP REDDY

'Every division will have monitoring cell to track major crimes'

Towing vehicles will be introduced again but after the revised guidelines and with permission from authorities concerned, says new Police Commissioner

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

To improve its image, the city police will strive to be more responsive and credible to achieve the best policing practice, said the 37th City Police Commissioner, C.H. Pratap Reddy, on Tuesday. Interacting with the media after taking charge, Mr. Reddy said containing anti-social activities, ensuring women's safety, traffic management, and investigation of cases with scientific temper are his priorities. Excerpts from an interview:

You mentioned responsive and credible policing. What are your plans to carry the idea forward?

■ To begin with, every division will have a crime monitoring unit, under a senior police officer, to focus on important cases, which needs constant monitoring, from tracking cases to prosecution. There are many instances where the crime will go out of focus due to various reasons and there is no proper follow-up system. All such cases will be monitored and taken to its logical conclusion, which includes keeping a track on the accused while they are in prison through the monitoring system.

Since the city is back on track in terms of traffic after COVID-19 restrictions, what are your ideas on traffic management?

■ In the last two years, people were working from home and traffic was under control. As the city is now returning to normalcy, traffic congestion is being monitored at the junction level to ensure a free flow of traffic. There are many projects on the cards to reduce traffic density and improve infrastructure. This includes installing more devices and equipping the traffic police with enforcement cameras. For example, random checking of vehicles for traffic violations has been stopped, with the help of automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras, red light violation detection enforcement cameras, and installation of CCTV cameras across the city under a Union government scheme.

This is a big step towards smart police management where everyone, from a constable to the Commissioner, works to ensure law and order.

> **Every division will have a crime monitoring unit, under a senior police officer, to focus on important cases which needs constant monitoring**

Change of guard: C.H. Pratap Reddy, Police Commissioner, being greeted by his predecessor Kamal Pant (right) in Bengaluru on Tuesday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

What is the status of towing vehicles in the city?

■ Towing vehicles are part of the traffic management system and their services are needed for the smooth flow of traffic. The tigers will be introduced again but after the revised guidelines and with the permission from authorities concerned.

There is a demand to extend the city's nightlife. What is your take on this?

■ My predecessor and the officials have taken a decision on this and the status quo will be maintained.

There are allegations of corruption among CCB officials and local police in terms of allowing certain illegal activities. How are you going to tackle this issue?

■ As I said, any dereliction of duty and negligence on the part of the police officials will be strictly dealt with. About the allegation against CCB officials, the power broker in this case has already been arrested and investigation is on to ascertain the role of any officials, which will be handled accordingly.

Bengaluru has the most cybercrimes registered. How are you going to handle this with a limited number of staff to investigate?

■ With the most cases registered, the city is also known for its best practice while handling cybercrime cases. The introduction of the CIR (cybercrime incident report) system in Bengaluru was followed by other metro cities. This is working very well in handling financial frauds and stopping illegal online payments within the golden hour. This CIR system will be analysed and improved further for better services.

I had a great stint: Pant

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Outgoing Commissioner Kamal Pant, soon after handing over the baton to C.H. Pratap Reddy, thanked all officials for their cooperation.

"I greatly thank the citizens of Bengaluru for their support and heartfelt thanks to my colleagues for their unflinching cooperation in maintaining peace and law and order. I had a great stint as Commissioner of Police and wishing the best to Mr. Reddy for his new tenure," he said, while tweeting his last message on the City Police Commissioner Twitter handle.

The aftermath

It was a struggle for people to negotiate flooded stretches of Mysuru Road after heavy rain lashed Bengaluru on Tuesday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

25 families lose shelter as wall collapses

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Around 25 families lost their shelter on Monday night after the wall of a construction site collapsed on their temporary housing sheds in Seegehalli ward in Mahadevapura zone. Most people in these families work as pourakarmikas for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and are immigrants from various parts of the State.

The pourakarmikas said repeated complaints to the authorities at the civic body about their housing situation have not yielded any results. "We have put up our sheds next to a multi-storey building construction site. On Monday, around 4.30 p.m., there was heavy rain and after some time, the compound wall collapsed on the sheds here," said Balaraju, who lives in one of the sheds.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client, Mrs.Radha.S W/o.late V.Suresh Naidu, aged about 62 years, residing at No.29, Suraj Enclave, 2nd Cross, Abbigere, Bangalore-560090 has LOST THE ORIGINAL SALE DEED DATED 17.07.2006, WHICH IS REGISTERED AS DOCUMENT NO.BLN-1-22821-2006-07 OF BOOK-I, STORED IN CD NO.BLND295, IN THE OFFICE OF THE SUB-REGISTRAR, BANGALORE NORTH TALUK, BANGALORE, LOST AT CHIKKABANAVARA, ON 01.05.2021 to 05.05.2022 BETWEEN 06.16PM TO 06.16 PM. A Complaint is lodged in online dated 05.05.2022 vide Lost Report bearing No.0216136/2022, Finders may return the same to the near Police Station or contact at the below address.

BHASKAR.M,
ADVOCATES & LEGAL CONSULTANTS,
Office: No.739, 3rd Floor, 60th Cross, Near Bhashyam Circle, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore -560 010 Land line: 080-48520073

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 04 /2022 Date:-13.05.2022

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items: Tender closing time 14:00 hrs.

Tender No.	Description in brief	Qty.	Tender Due on
81211085A	HP POWERKOOL RR of HPCL for maintenance of HPCL	17010 LTR	23.05.2022
79221045	Soft woolen blanket of superior quality with four side satin	13610 Nos.	25.05.2022
33221014	Snack table with bottle holder for LHB type coaches	1150 Nos.	08.06.2022
61221005A	Clean silica sand, free from clay loams, mica and foreign	981 MT	10.06.2022
83221102	Computerized Reservation Ticket with advertisement	31925 Rolls	30.05.2022
75221021A	Pre-Laminated single shaded compreg to size 2440 x 1220 x 3mm	2055 Nos.	06.06.2022
33221069 A	Non asbestos based organic brake pad for LHB Coaches	8000 Set	15.06.2022
30221701	Water tank assembly (455 LTS) two piece design to ICF	100 Nos	10.06.2022
80221048	Compressor oil, servo pres 100 RR packed	13650 Litre	07.06.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

PUB/89/AAAL/PRB/SWR/2022-23 Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. MYS-COMML-27-MPS Date: 11.05.2022.

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites tender for award of license to install and operate 5 Multi Purpose Stalls at various railway stations on Mysuru Division for a period of five years.

Last Date of Submission of bids: Up to 15:30 hrs. on 15.06.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Please visit the website for any corrigendum till the closing date.

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Mysuru

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is desirous of purchasing the schedule property from its present owner, **Sri. Varun. V**, S/o. M. Vasu (Aadhar No-9299 0985 2237), residing at 320/H, 9th A Main Road, 40th Cross, Jayanagar 5th Block, Bengaluru-560041 which is more-fully described in the schedule hereunder (**"Schedule Property"**). It is reported that the owner has acquired the right title and interest over the schedule property by virtue of registered Sale Deed dated 21.08.2013 from its erstwhile owners, **Sri Narayanappa & Sri Pillappa**, vide No-MLS-1-01325-2013-14, which is electronically stored in CD NO-MLSD64 of Book-I, dated 23.08.2013, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Malleshwaram Bangalore.

Any person or persons asserting any charge, lien, right, title, agreement, interest or claim on the schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property or the documents thereof or against the owner or objection to such sale in favour of my client should lodge his/her/their/its objections or claims with supporting documents with the undersigned within **FIFTEEN DAYS (15 Days)** of the issuance of this Public Notice, after which period my client shall proceed with the purchase of the schedule property on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Vacant **Site No. 826**, BDA Khata No-BDA/RO (N)/Arkavathy/826/2014-15, situated at **Arkavathy layout 2nd Block formed by Bangalore Development Authority in land bearing Sy. No-8/5 of Sampigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk (Previously Bangalore North Taluk)**, measuring East to West: 12.00 Meters and North to South 9.00 Meters, in all measuring 108 Sq. Meters and bounded on that:

East By: Road, West By : Site No-845, North By : Site No-825, South By : Site No-827

Dhirendra N. Katti, Advocates,
No. 4, 14 Cross, Vyalikaval, Bangalore-560003
email : kattidhirendra@gmail.com

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 13/MYS/2022 Date: 12.05.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Sl	Name of work	Approx. Value
1	**Sub Work-I:** Nagavangala: Provision of PF shelter in PF No. 2. **Sub Work-II:** Hosadurga: Provision of platform shelter in PF No. 2. **Sub Work-III:** Hanumanahalli Halt: Construction of Booking office cum waiting hall of 10 sqm.	Rs.13,55,725/-
2	**Mysuru Division:** JRU-RDG Section: conversion of SWP/FR to LWR on loop lines (13 loops)-Total length= 10.518km. (Rd No 1 & 3 of AMC, CTA, CHKE, BOMN & MOMU & Rd No 1 of HLV, BAHI, THKU stations.	Rs. 27,44,409/-
3	Development of Nerlekatte station as per ADARSH norms.	Rs. 25,62,589/-
4	Mysuru-Chamarajanagar Section: Provision of FOB at Kadakola.	Rs. 98,80,630/-
5	**Mysuru Division:** Hassan-Yedakumari: Clearing of earth slip and restoration of track due to land slide (for the anticipated slips in the year 2022-2023) in reach-I and deployment of companion for Monsoon Night patrolling and deployment of watch at vulnerable location	Rs. 1,85,18,799/-
6	**Mysuru Division:** Yedakumari- Padil section: Clearing of earth slip and restoration of track due to land slide (For the anticipated slips in the year 2022-23) in Reach -II section and deployment of companion for Monsoon Night patrolling and deployment of watchman at vulnerable location.	Rs. 1,98,28,810/-
7	**Sub Work-I:** Mysuru- Improvements to colony roads at Loco & VRC colony. **Sub Work-II:** Shivamogga town: Provision of CC approach road to goods shed with storm water drain for 600 meters and improvements to existing loading area. **Sub Work-III:** Anandapuram: Provision of 340m length of bitumen station approach road with storm water drain. **Sub Work-IV:** Talguppa: Water supply pipe line connection form RCC overhead tank to station building, holiday home, running room kitchen building and quarters and UGD connection to quarters. **Sub Work-V:** Bhadravati: Construction of catering stall at PF No.1. **Sub Work-VI:** Chikkamagaluru: Provision of PF shelter at PF No.2.	Rs. 3,01,82,851/-

Last Date of Submission of bids: Up to 11:00 hrs. on 03.06.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer /Co-ord Mysuru

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

No.49, "Parisara Bhavana", 1st to 5th Floor, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560 001, Karnataka, INDIA.
Ph: 25581383, 25589112, 25586520 Fax: 080-25586321
E-mail: ho@kspcb.gov.in Website : https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

NO. PCB/132/SEO/MINES/EPH/2022-23/1090 DATE: 16/05/2022

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited has proposed to undertake Quarrying of Ordinary Sand in Shalgi Sand Block of capacity 1,25,290TPA over an area 30.00 acres in Krishna River bed at Sy.Nos. 126,127,128/2 & 129, Shalgi Village, Shorapur Taluk, Yadgiri District. The project proponent has to obtain Environmental Clearance from SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, as per the EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006 (as amended on 01.12.2009), and is required to go through Environmental Public Hearing. As per the SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, Terms of Reference letter (ToR) No. SEIAA 442 MIN 2021 dated 06.12.2021 and request of the project proponent letter dated 12.02.2022 to Board Office, the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by the Board.

The details of the project are as follows:

1. **Name of the Company & Address : The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited (Govt. of Karnataka undertaking), 3rd Floor, KHB Shopping Complex, National Games Village, Koramangala, Bangalore- 560047**
2. **Location of Proposed Quarry : Sy Nos.126,127,128/2 & 129, Shalgi Village, Shorapur Taluk, Yadgiri District, Karnataka.**
3. **Details of proposed activity :** Quarrying of Ordinary Sand of capacity 1,25, 290TPA.
4. **Pollution control measures proposed :** Water sprinkling on haul roads at regular intervals and regular maintenance of haul road. Haul road will be kept wide and compact. Regular maintenance of vehicles and machinery. Plantation of thick greenbelt is provided around lease boundary. No waste water will be generated during quarrying operation. For the disposal of domestic waste water generated from quarry office, mobile STP will be provided. There is no proposal of dumping the proposed ensuring quarrying period, & concurrent backfilling is proposed.
5. **Date, time and venue of Environmental public hearing: 17.06.2022 (Friday) at 1:00 PM at Sy.No. 126, 127, 128/2 & 129, Shalgi Village, Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District.**
6. **Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, which is kept open to public are:** (a) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Yadgiri District, Yadgiri. (b) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Yadgiri. (c) District Industries Centre, Yadgiri. (d) Taluk Panchayath, Shorapur. (e) Village Panchayath Office, Shalgi. (f) Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Yadgiri. (g) SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, Room No. 706, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru–560 001. (h) HELP DESK, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No.49, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru–560 001

NOTE: Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notification. They can also make oral/written/E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee (Deputy Commissioner, Yadgiri District, Yadgiri). Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place. For details please visit our Website: **kspcb.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Member Secretary

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[illegible]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE - U.R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, HAL Airport Road, Bangalore - 560 017
(Phone: 080 25084177, 4184, 4156)

CORRIGENDUM-III dated: 13.05.2022

On behalf of the President of India, item-rate tenders are invited for the following work:

Sl.No	Description	Details	
1	Name of work	Civil works for installation of coordinate measuring Machine (CMM) at CMM lab at MSA-ISITE Campus, URSC, Marathahalli, Bangalore-37.	Renovation of toilets at Reception 1st floor-C&MG building and Ladies toilet at 3rd and 4th floor Main building at URSC Campus, Vimanapura, Bengaluru-17.
2	E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/C/TN/33/2021-22 dated: 14.03.2022	URSC/C&MG/C/TN/34/2021-22 dated: 14.03.2022
3	Estimated cost put to tender	₹ 14.27 Lakhs	₹ 16.32 Lakhs
4	Period during which the tender document can be downloaded.	Extended upto 16.30 Hhrs on 24.05.2022	
5	Last date and time for receipt of tenders	Up to 14.30 hrs. on 27.05.2022	
6	Due date and time of opening of tenders	14.30 hrs onwards on 27.05.2022	

All other details of NIET said above remains unaltered. For further details along with Hindi version in website: www.isro.gov.in and download the tender documents from www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO. Sd/-, Group Director (C&MG)

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PERSONAL

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE / LOSS OF PROPERTY DOCUMENTS Notice is hereby given to the public that my client M.Patalappa has lost / misplaced his original property documents vide lost report No. 0220061/2022, dated 11–05–2022. All persons having any claim in respect thereof are requested to inform the same in writing to the undersigned having their office at No. 4C, 2nd Floor, 2nd A Cross, Above Corner House, 2nd Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore 560043, within 14 days from the date hereof failing which the claim or claims of any person will be considered to be waived / abandoned and the sale shall be executed any claims thereof, shall contact the following Mr. Srikanth, Mob : 8341775555 and / or Adv Sandeep, E–mail : vijaysandeep56@gmail.com. SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO All that piece and parcel of land bearing converted New Sy No. 124/1A (Old Sy No. 124/1) measuring an extent of 0–28 guntas, from Agricultural to non agricultural residential purpose vide memorandum no. ALN(E)SR/05/2013–14, dated 17/10/2013, issued by Deputy commissioner Bangalore, situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East, in the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP, bounded on East by : Land in Sy No. 124/1B, belonging to Sri. A Narayanappa,West by : Boundary of Amani Byrathi Khane,North by : Land in Sy No. 125 belonging to Sri. M Krishnappa,South by : Land in Sy No. 123, belonging to Sri. Venkateshappa, for Patalappa, dated 18th day of May 2022, Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VINAY** NAGARAJ residing at #2588, 11th Main Road,E Block,Subramanyanagar,Bengaluru–560010,Karnataka State,India,have changed my name from VINAY N to VINAY NAGARAJ, before ONKARAPPA.N.R,Advocate & Notary,Bengaluru vide affidavit dated 16/05/2022

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TATA ELXSI LIMITED ITPB Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka, 560048 Notice is hereby given that the share certificate for the under mentioned securities of the Company has been lost or mislaid and the holders of the said securities/ applicant has applied to the Company to issue duplicate certificate.Any person who has a claim in respect of the said securities should lodge such claim with the Company at its Registered Office within 15 days from this date. Else the company will proceed to issue duplicate certificate (s) without further intimation. Name of the Holder Certificate Distinctive No. NO(s) QTY Kind of securities & Face Value S. Seetharaman 17749 7743211–7743310 100 Equity Fv. Rs.10/- Name(s) of Applicant: S. Seetharaman 'SAPTHAGIRI' NO.2 Sundara Rajan Street, Abiramapuram, Chennai–600018.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **TARA** Sujay Rao Mandavilli, D/o Satyanarayana Janapamala aged about 49 yrs, R/at MG.203, Golden Blossom Apts, Near Kadugodi Bridge, Kadugodi, Bengaluru-560067, have changed my name from Tara Sujay Rao Mandavilli to Tara Mandavilli vide affidavit dated 17/05/2022 before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Krupeshkumar** Aka Krupesh Govindbhai Patel Aka Bhut S/o Govindbhai Bhut, R/o: 308, Magna Nest Apartment, 2nd Main, Shubh Enclave Opp Hp Petrol Pump, Harlur Road, Ambalipura, Bengaluru-560102, changed my name to Krupeshkumar Govindbhai Patel for all purposes.

Long wait: Motorists queue along a road to buy petrol at a Ceylon petroleum corporation fuel station in Colombo on May 17. • AFP

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Why did the Rajapaksas win in 2019?

Sri Lanka's great liberal democratic experiment has now been overcome by authoritarian populism

AHILAN KADIRGAMAR

THE GIST

- The Rajapaksa camp took the risk of forming their own party, the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, which has now engulfed the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. They built a base in their Sinhala constituencies by engaging the rural population and lower middle classes.
- Amid acute joblessness, soaring living costs, mounting household debt and people's still rural livelihoods, coupled with fear since the Easter terror attacks, the people turned to a "strong leader" for relief from gripping insecurity. While the minorities, worried about their future, voted overwhelmingly against Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the Sinhala political base, built by the Rajapaksas, has brought them to power.
- While the responsibility for the defeat of the liberal democratic experiment of 2015 falls squarely on Mr. Wickremesinghe and Mr. Sirisena, salvaging what is left of that democratic space now becomes the task of the dispersed actors and forces that have to regroup and reassess.

Mahindra Rajapaksa has resigned as Prime Minister of Sri Lanka and the previous regime's leader Ranil Wickremesinghe has been appointed as the new head of government. With the political clout of the Rajapaksas hitting rock bottom, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is hanging by a thread to his seat of power. In this article dated November 18, 2019, Ahilan Kadirgamar traces the journey of the Rajapaksas and their fight back to power.

The 2019 presidential election will be a watershed in Sri Lankan history. The Rajapaksa regime was decisively defeated in both the 2015 presidential and parliamentary elections. Since then, remnants of the regme have persevered to rebuild. Rejected nationally and isolated internationally, their crafty politics, ideological consolidation, and political mobilisation ensured a powerful political base among the Sinhala constituencies. While the minorities, worried about their future, voted overwhelmingly against presidential candidate and former Defence Secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the Sinhala political base, built by the Rajapaksas, has brought them back to power.

Road to power

The Rajapaksa camp took the risk of forming their own party, the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna, which has now engulfed the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. They built a base in their Sinhala constituencies by engaging the rural population and lower middle classes. They spoke to the discontent with a long-neglected drought and deteriorating economic situation. They turned the corruption discourse that had damaged them in power back onto the incumbent government, as the Central Bank bond scandal exposed the newly appointed Central Bank Governor and provided an irredeemable blow to the promise of "good governance".

They tested their strength and gained confidence with the local government elections of 2018, where their newly constructed party machine made a landslide victory in the Southern constituencies. They kept Parliament at boiling point with no-confidence motions, and even attempted a parliamentary coup, with President Maithripala Sirisena appointing Mahinda Rajapaksa as Prime Minister. They capitalised on the Easter attacks, and claimed to be the only actors who can address national security, even as the President and Prime Minister pointed fingers about the security lapses that could have averted the disaster. Not only did they miss no opportunity to attack the government over the last four years, but also worked incessantly on the ground to build up their base, whether with the disgruntled Sinhala rural masses, the bureaucrats comfortable with their politics of patronage, the business classes that sought to gain from their economic policies, or the chauvinist social movements that thrived on their backing for majoritarian and xenophobic politics. With the presidential election victory, the Rajapaksa juggernaut now looks well poised to consolidate power for the long haul.

Each of the gains of the Rajapaksas was in fact a failure of the Sirisena-Wickremesinghe government. The coalition government was rocked by infighting, and its aloof leadership with grand projects of trade liberalisation and foreign investment neglected people's everyday concerns. With the global Islamophobic discourse on the rise, the government did little to confront the chauvinist forces that ideologically mobilised the Sinhala constituencies by constructing the Muslims as the new enemies. Amid acute joblessness, soaring living costs, mounting household debt and people's still rural livelihoods, coupled with fear since the Easter terror attacks, the people turned to a "strong leader" for relief from gripping insecurity. These are the grounds on which Sri Lanka's great liberal democratic experiment of 2015 has now been overcome by authoritarian populism.

If the neoliberals under Ranil Wickremesinghe lost the plot on the economy, there was nevertheless liberal progress with state and social institutions. Militarisation and surveillance in the country, in the North and East in particular, was considerably reversed with democratic space providing room for freedom of expression and protests. Military-held lands in the North were released to their private owners. The judiciary regained independence. The media and social movements gained the confidence to critique the state. The excessive powers of the executive presidency were clipped, and independent commissions for human rights and right to information were strengthened.

In this context, the normalisation away from an excessive security mindset hung over from the war years were undone by the Easter attacks, and the room for scrutiny of the security apparatuses are now shutting down. Independence of institutions are also now at risk: either through legislative moves with consolidation of power in Parliament or through crass politicisation. These are blows to the democratic space gained over the last five years.

It is those concerns that brought the loose set of actors opposing the return of a Rajapaksa regime. What was necessary, however, was a strong coalition that also addressed fundamental political-economic concerns, but that was not to be with the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) seeking to build a third force and United National Party (UNP) leader, Mr. Wickremesinghe, seeking to undermine his party's candidacy to ensure his own leadership of the party.

Electoral outcomes

In this context, the electoral map reveals certain divisions. The Tamil- and Muslim-heavy regions of the North and East, the UNP and up-country Tamil strongholds of the Central Highlands, and the minority-heavy and UNP strongholds around Colombo voted for Sajith Premadasa, while the vast majority of the other electorates voted for Mr. Rajapaksa.

The electoral map may immediately hint at a polarised country along ethno-nationalist lines, but a deeper look into the politics of each region may reveal different dynamics. The voter turnouts in the Northern constituencies were much higher than in the past, despite neither candidate addressing their aspirations and a crass call from the Tamil nationalist fringe for boycott of the elections. In voting overwhelmingly for Mr. Premadasa, the Northern constituencies have entered the realm of national politics seeking to shape it as opposed to the decades-long approach of exclusionary politics that refused to even consider national changes. Similarly, while the simplistic narrative of the Sinhala voter supporting a majoritarian regime may be tempting, in reality it is perhaps lower and middle class economic disenchantment and youth disillusionment that ensured a mass vote for Mr. Rajapaksa. While the responsibility for the defeat of the liberal democratic experiment of 2015 falls squarely on Mr. Wickremesinghe and Mr. Sirisena, salvaging what is left of that democratic space now becomes the task of the dispersed actors and forces that have to regroup ahead of the imminent parliamentary elections. The Muslim and Tamil minority parties that sought to keep the Rajapaksas at bay, the failed third force experiment of the JVP with allied left forces, and various social movements now have the unenviable task of defending the democratic space from an authoritarian populist regime about to consolidate power.

Ahilan Kadirgamar is a political economist and Senior Lecturer, University of Jaffna

KEYWORD

Stagflation

Understanding how stagnant economic output and high price inflation can co-exist

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

Stagflation refers to an economic situation marked by stagnant economic output and high price inflation. The idea became popular during the 1970s when the U.S. economy witnessed high price inflation due to the oil shock as well as an economic recession marked by negative economic growth. Economists at the time could not explain the prevalence of high price inflation and stagnant economic output at the same time. The prevailing notion among economists back then was that an economy can either experience high price inflation or stagnant economic output, but never both at the same time.

Unemployment and inflation

The idea of stagflation is closely linked to the Phillips curve which tried to establish that there was a negative empirical relationship between unemployment and inflation. That is, according to the Philips curve, when unemployment is high, inflation is low and when unemployment is low, inflation is high. The supposed negative relationship between unemployment and inflation was explained by Keynesian economists as a natural phenomenon caused by the prevalence of sticky prices. According to these economists, unemployment in an economy rises when wages fail to drop quickly enough to adjust to changing economic conditions. Workers are seen as unwilling to accept a cut in their wages, thus forcing businesses to let go of some of their employees in order to adjust to higher wages instead of trying to lower wages. This can affect the overall output of an economy as fewer people are now employed.

Many economists during the time, in fact, came to believe that it was the duty of central banks to carefully manage price inflation in such a way that unemployment is kept within reasonable limits. Inflation was supposed to be maintained at a certain level such that there is no excess unemployment and the economy is functioning at its full capacity. The belief among economists was that workers could be tricked into accepting lower real wages (but higher nominal wages) when prices rise at a certain rate, thus ensuring that workers are employed and the economy continues to function at full capacity.

Rational expectations model

The prevalence of both high price inflation and stagnant economic output in the 1970s, however, forced economists to reconsider their economic models. There was the need for alternative economic models that could explain the stagflationary environment of the 1970s better than the prevailing Keynesian model. The rational expectations model was one of the alternative models proposed to explain stagflation. According to this model, workers could not be as easily tricked by central banks as assumed by Keynesian economists. The proponents of the rational expectations school argued that when workers observe that prices rise at a certain rate over time, they are likely to demand higher wages in order to beat price inflation and at least maintain their real wages. In that case, central banks cannot trick workers so easily and high inflation and high unemployment may prevail at the same time.

Economists from other schools of thought have also tried to independently explain stagflation. Some, for instance, have argued that even though prices may be sticky and inflation could trick some workers, the economy does not function in a mechanistic way as assumed by the Keynesians. For instance, in the Keynesian view prices rise only after the economy reaches full employment. But there may be no valid reason to believe why prices cannot rise at an aggressive rate while the economy is stagnant. This can happen, for instance, when a supply shock is met with ultra-loose central bank policy. The result could be stagnating economic output even as prices of goods rise aggressively due to rising money supply.

THE DAILY QUIZ

India's first feature film *Shree Pundalik* was released on May 18, 1912. Here's a quiz on prolific milestones in Indian cinema

1 *Yaadein* is a 1964 Hindi film directed and produced by Sunil Dutt, who also stars in it. The film is a soliloquy delivered by a man who comes home to find that his wife and son are not at home, and assumes that they have left him. The film entered the Guinness Book of World Records for a specific reason. What was special about the movie?

2 This production studio, founded by Avichi Meiyappan in 1945, is the oldest surviving studio in India. Located in Vadapalani, Chennai, it has produced over 300 films in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi cinema, and has introduced prominent actors such as Sivaji Ganesan, Rajkumar, Vyjayanthimala, Rajinikanth, and Kamal Haasan, among others. Identify the studio.

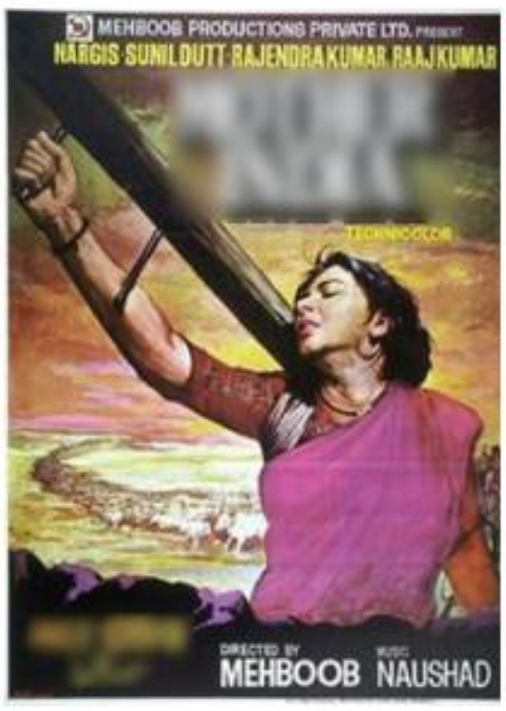
3 Directed by Satyajit Ray, this National Award-winning film is based on an eponymous 1929 book by Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay. Name this Bengali film, which was the first film made in independent India to receive major critical attention internationally, winning the Best Human Document award at the 1956 Cannes Film Festival.

4 In 1931, *Alam Ara* opened in theatres to a positive reception. The film was advertised with the tagline 'All living. Breathing. 100 percent talking' and the Hindi tagline was '78 murde insaan zinda ho gaye. Unko bolte dekho.' What unique distinction does the film hold?

5 Presented by the Government of India, this award recognises lifetime contribution to cinema. It was instituted in 1969 in honour of an individual who is commonly known as the 'Father of Indian cinema'. In whose honour is the award presented?

6 Described as a 'city within a city', this film studio has been recognised by Guinness World Records as the largest studio complex in the world. Located in Hyderabad, it is spread over 1,666 acres and houses the sets used for the Baahubali films. Name the film studio complex.

Compiled by: Ranjani Srinivasan



◄ This Hindi-language film (whose poster is pictured on the left) was India's first submission for the Academy Award for Best International Feature Film category in 1958. Identify the movie.

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The first person to be inoculated against rabies by Louis Pasteur. **Ans: Joseph Meister**
2. The virus which causes smallpox. **Ans: Variola virus**
3. The non-fiction book that chronicles the discovery and spread of HIV and AIDS, and the politics that revolved around it. **Ans: *And the Band Played On: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic* by Randy Shilts**
4. The MMR vaccine is used against these three infectious diseases. **Ans: Measles, Mumps, Rubella**
5. The name of the vaccination programme launched by the Government of India in 1985. **Ans: Universal Immunisation Programme**
6. This virologist was awarded the Florey Medal in 2013 for her discovery of rotavirus and subsequent work which helped develop a vaccine. **Ans: Ruth Bishop**
7. This 2011 American film directed by Steven Soderbergh regained popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic for its plot concerning the spread of a virus. **Ans: *Contagion***
Visual: This scientist developed the oral polio vaccine. **Ans: Albert Sabin**

Early Birds: Akshay Kumar Khanna| Bhuvanesh| Priyanka Kumar| Sudhi Agarwal

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Shortcut to 'good looks' can be dangerous, say doctors

Experts say that youngsters going under the knife is a worrying trend

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

While many youngsters are opting to go under the knife to shed that stubborn layer of fat for what is called "good looks", a section of medical professionals are critical of surgical methods for weight loss.

The death of a 21-year-old Kannada actor following a liposuction procedure has now raised questions over the safety and need of such surgeries.

C.N. Manjunath, Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, said, "Such procedures provide only temporary relief as fat accumulates again after it is removed. While trying to take out fat, micro fat bubbles are created which block the arteries of the lungs resulting in pulmonary embolism and ultimately leading to cardiac arrest," he said. Stating that bariatric surgery (gastric bypass) is recommended for only extremely obese people, Dr. Manjunath said many a times procedures can be more harmful than the disease itself. "People should not fall prey to advertisements claiming quick remedies for weight loss. It is important to avoid the 5S factors - salt, stress, spirit, smoking and a sedentary life - for a healthy life," the doctor added.

People should not fall prey to advertisements claiming quick remedies for weight loss. It is important to avoid the 5 'S' factors – salt, stress, spirit, smoking, and a sedentary life – for a healthy life.

C.N. MANJUNATH
Director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research

Not advisable

Chandrakant Sambhaji Pandav, member of National Nutrition Council (Poshan Abhiyan), said "shortcuts" to weight loss can be dangerous. "Unhealthy diet and erratic food habits, coupled with inactivity and sedentary lifestyle are the main causes of obesity. A proper sustainable and feasible management that involves healthy eating habits and exercise is the best option. Weight loss is a continuous battle and surgeries that involve meddling with healthy organs have a high complication rate," he said.

Moinoddin G., Bariatric Surgeon at Manipal Hospitals (Millers Road), said anyone with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of more than 30 and above is eligible for surgical weight loss surgeries. "Bariatric surgery is also a 'safe solution' for people whose morbid obesity gets in the way of their daily activities that can lead to co-morbid complications. Patients with a BMI below 30, who are considered overweight, will benefit from diet and exercise," he said. He said liposuction can be done only for those with gross cosmetic abnormalities, who would want to reduce fat on specific body parts. "We go by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) guidelines for deciding on bariatric surgery. Those with a BMI of 32.5 along with co-morbidities and those with BMI of 35.5 without any co-morbidities are considered fit for the surgery in Asia," the doctor added.

Karnataka reports 109 new COVID-19 cases

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka on Tuesday reported 109 new cases reducing the day's Test Positivity Rate (TPR) to 0.78%.

The total number of cases touched 39,49,882. Of the new cases, 95 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban. With zero deaths, the State's toll remained 40,063.

As many as 147 persons were discharged on Tuesday taking the total recoveries to 39,07,975.

Complaint filed against Hindu outfit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Members of city based Law and Policy Research Institute on Monday filed a complaint against alleged hate speeches made against the minority community at Hindu Janajagruti Samiti's Hindu Rashtra Convention on May 8. The complaint, along with the links of the social media account pages, were submitted to Sanjaynagar police station, but the police refused to take the complaint, they alleged.

The delegation was directed to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, North Vinayak Patil for necessary action.

FROM PAGE ONE

Actor dies during fat reduction surgery

Plastic surgeon Saheb Gowda Shetty of Dr. Shetty's Cosmetic Centre, who performed the procedure, denied there was any negligence. He said the actor developed fat embolism resulting in pulmonary edema soon after the three-hour procedure.

"Although she was fine when she was admitted on Monday, she started frothing from her mouth as the procedure was about to end. We intubated her and put her on a ventilator. Her vitals – oxygen saturation and pulse – dropped, and she suffered a cardiac arrest. Although she was revived after we gave her adrenaline, she had another cardiac arrest. This time too we revived her, and by the time she was shifted to another hospital, she suffered a third arrest, which was fatal," Dr. Shetty told *The Hindu*.

The doctor said the patient may have had COVID-19 in the past, and the hospital wasn't informed about it. "Also, we have learnt that she was partying till 1 a.m. the previous night, and had consumed alcohol, which may have had an adverse effect," he added.

KSRTC: Experienced drivers behind the wheel during most accidents

71 accidents reported this year claiming the lives of 28 people and injuring 67

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A review of road accidents involving buses of the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has revealed that most of the accidents happened while experienced drivers were driving the vehicles.

Among the accidents that were reported in 2022, 39% of them happened while drivers of the age group 41 to 50 were driving and 23.2% of the drivers fall under the age group of 36 to 40 years. Interestingly, newly joined drivers in the age group of 21 to 30 are involved in just 1.2 % of the accidents.

This year, 71 accidents have been reported involving KSRTC buses, claiming the lives of 28 people and injuring 67.

Officials said 44% of road accident victims are bikers and 19% are pedestrians. A majority of the accidents were reported between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

On Tuesday, in the backdrop of reports on multiple accidents involving KSRTC buses, Managing Director of KSRTC Anbu Kumar held an interaction with 35 drivers with a history of accidents.

The KSRTC bus that hit a metro pillar on Mysuru Road recently. • FILE PHOTO

Last week, 26 passengers were injured after a speeding KSRTC bus rammed into the metro pillar on Mysuru Road. Many of the seriously injured passengers and the driver are still undergoing treatment at various hospitals.

"We held meetings with the drivers to have a deeper understanding about why accidents happen and what corrective measures need to be taken to bring down the accident rate. There are multiple reasons for accidents: reckless driving by the driver, black spots, bad road conditions, other motorists not following rules and many others. There is a need to sensitise our drivers about the rights of other road users, especially pedestrians and bikers, as they are major victims of road accidents. Drivers have to realise that road accidents will have a far reaching impact on lives of injured or dependents of people who died in road accidents.," said the MD. He added that the corporation is roping in the World Resources Institute (WRI) on training drivers.

On the recent accident that happened on Mysuru Road, Mr. Anbu Kumar said the KSRTC is bearing the medical expenses of passengers who are undergoing treatment at various hospitals. "Instructions have been given to all the divisions to make sure that injured passengers are visited on a regular basis when they are receiving treatment. We are also bearing the cost of close relatives who are attending the patients at the hospital and kits being provided containing fruit, clothes, eatables and other things. In case injured people are in need of a wheelchair or other aids, it will be provided, " the official said.

Retired drivers

The KSRTC, which is facing a shortage of drivers, is planning to use the service of retired drivers on a temporary basis. The MD said that due to financial issues, recruitment of new drivers has been stalled. "This summer, we have gradually increased the services and our revenue has touched ₹10 crore per day. To make maximum utilisation of available fleet, scarcity of drivers is a hurdle. We have decided to use the service of retired drivers who are fit. The drivers will get close to ₹1,000 for eight steering hours and ₹125 for every hour thereafter. Their service will be used in Ramanagaram, Chamarajanagar and Mangaluru," he said.

First bone marrow transplant performed at Kidwai institute

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology has successfully conducted its first Autologous Stem Cell transplantation on an eight-year-old boy from Tumkuru.

The patient, Jeevan Kumar, had been diagnosed with Refractory Hodgkins Lymphoma, S4, nine months ago. The transplantation was done on April 28 and the patient was discharged on Monday.

A team of doctors comprising Vasundhara Kailasnath, Linu Jacob, Smitha Saldanha and Gayatri from the Bone Marrow Transplantation unit at the hospital performed the surgery. The unit was inaugurated on February 15 on the occasion of International Childhood Cancer Day.

"We initially collected the healthy stem cells from the patient and cyropreserved (a process in which the cells are stored at minus 80 degree celsius). Subsequently, the patient was given high dose chemotherapy to kill the residual cancer cells and the stored stem cells were transfused back into the patient. This procedure is called Autologous Stem Cell transplantation," said Dr. Kailasnath.

"The entire process has taken about 20-24 days and the patient has done well through the procedure," she said.

Institute Director C. Ramachandra said the expensive procedure was done free of cost for the patient. "About 20 patients have been lined up for this procedure and the next patient will be taken up within a week," he said.

KSHRC orders probe into attack on lawyer

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Human Rights Commission has ordered a probe into the incident of a woman lawyer being assaulted in Bagalkot district. A video of this incident had gone viral on social media.

Based on a complaint by the victim's sister, SHRC Chairman D.J. Waghela referred the matter to the full Bench of the commission and issued orders to the Additional Director General of Police. KSHRC is to submit an enquiry report.

Assaulted over property dispute

The victim was assaulted allegedly over a property dispute. Rajashekhar Naikar and his followers allegedly locked up the victim's family, assaulted her - which was caught on camera - and later demolished a part of the property using a JCB to take possession, the complainant alleged.

It also alleges that the power supply utility officials cut power to the property. Following the complaint to the KSHRC, police have arrested the man who attacked the victim and has promised that other accused will also be arrested soon.

Inter-State drug dealer arrested

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Officials of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) on Tuesday arrested a Madhya Pradesh-based inter-Sate drug dealer involved in numerous cases of drug smuggling across India and neighbouring countries and was on the run since 2014. The accused, Mohammed Yunus, 43, was nabbed at the Kempegowda International Airport.

According to the officials, Yunus was into rug trading for over a decade and amassed huge movable and immovable properties through substance smuggling and was wanted by anti-narcotics agencies and police forces. While probing a 15-kg opium case, the NCB unit Bengaluru formed a special team to track the accused.

A native of Bolia village in Madhya Pradesh, Yunus was under the radar of drug enforcement agencies in May 2013.

The NCB team tracked him down in 2014 and tried to arrest, but he managed to escape and went underground.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, MAY. 18	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:38
RISE 21:12	SET 07:43
THURSDAY, MAY. 19	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:39
RISE 22:17	SET 08:47
FRIDAY, MAY. 20	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:39
RISE 23:17	SET 09:53

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	22
Mysuru	29	18
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail.Night will be pleasant. One or two spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

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MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 9th May, 2022

S.O. 2146(E).—In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of Belgaum-Hungund-Raichur Stretch (EC10-Hyderabad-Panaji) in the stretch of land from Km 89+900 to Km 136+800 in the district of BELAGAVI in the state of KARNATAKA, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication ofthis notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Special Land Acquisition Officer, NHAI Bagalkot at C/O Shobha Yadahalli, 4th Cross, P.No. 37, S.No.123/1B, Vidyagiri, Bagalkot, Karnataka in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling within the stretch of land Belgaum-Hungund-Raichur from Des CH. 89+900 to 136+800 Stretch (EC-10-Hyderabad-Panaji) in the state of KARNATAKA

State: KARNATAKA					District: BELAGAVI
Sl. No.	Survey/Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature Of Land	Area (in Local Unit)	Area (in Hectares)
Taluk: Ramdurg					Village: Aneguddi
1	103	Private	Dry	22,851.2000000(Square Meter)	2.2851200
2	104	Private	Dry	27,838.8000000(Square Meter)	2.7838800
3	106	Private	Dry	13,169.3000000(Square Meter)	1.3169300
4	107	Private	Dry	29,220.0800000(Square Meter)	2.9220100
5	108	Private	Dry	3,892.9100000(Square Meter)	0.3892910
6	109	Private	Dry	40,284.3200000(Square Meter)	4.0284300
7	110	Private	Dry	28,415.5600000(Square Meter)	2.8415600
8	111	Private	Dry	1,619.3900000(Square Meter)	0.1619390
9	Road	Government	Road	938.6740000(Square Meter)	0.0938674
Village: Batakurki					
1	330	Private	Dry	46,867.5440000(Square Meter)	4.6867500
2	332	Government	Dry	7,917.4700000(Square Meter)	0.7917470
3	333	Private	Dry	38,950.1000000(Square Meter)	3.8950100
4	334	Private	Dry	10,598.1000000(Square Meter)	1.0598100
5	342	Private	Dry	3,137.9100000(Square Meter)	0.3137910
6	350	Private	Dry	24,282.1000000(Square Meter)	2.4282100
Village: Chennapur					
1	103	Private	Dry	21.4080000(Square Meter)	0.0021408
2	104	Private	Dry	37,061.4380000(Square Meter)	3.7061400
3	116	Private	Dry	478.2630000(Square Meter)	0.0478263
4	117	Private	Dry	29,739.2000000(Square Meter)	2.9739200
5	121	Private	Dry	24,686.8000000(Square Meter)	2.4686800
6	129	Private	Dry	134.6900000(Square Meter)	0.0134690
7	136	Private	Dry	14,880.6930000(Square Meter)	1.4880700
8	137	Private	Dry	9,130.2200000(Square Meter)	0.9130220
9	138	Private	Dry	21,166.3000000(Square Meter)	2.1166300
10	139	Private	Dry	14,191.4000000(Square Meter)	1.4191400
11	140	Private	Dry	31,003.2000000(Square Meter)	3.1003200
12	141	Private	Dry	79.3650000(Square Meter)	0.0079365
13	161	Private	Dry	15,897.6940000(Square Meter)	1.5897700
14	162	Private	Dry	24,240.7000000(Square Meter)	2.4240700
15	164	Common	Dry	61.7690000(Square Meter)	0.0061769
16	165	Private	Dry	29,419.2000000(Square Meter)	2.9419200
17	169	Private	Dry	20,704.8000000(Square Meter)	2.0704800
18	170	Private	Dry	12,349.3000000(Square Meter)	1.2349300
19	88	Private	Dry	27,246.8300000(Square Meter)	2.7246800
20	89	Private	Dry	46,668.9730000(Square Meter)	4.6669000
21	90	Private	Dry	25,670.6000000(Square Meter)	2.5670600
22	91	Private	Dry	13,882.6000000(Square Meter)	1.3882600
23	92	Private	Dry	18,361.9000000(Square Meter)	1.8361900
24	94	Private	Dry	17,902.1000000(Square Meter)	1.7902100
25	River	Government	River	3,297.3900000(Square Meter)	0.3297390
26	Road	Government	Road	964.1030000(Square Meter)	0.0964103
27	Road	Government	Road	983.2460000(Square Meter)	0.0983246
Village: Timmapur S.A.					
1	15	Private	Dry	6,295.3000000(Square Meter)	0.6295300
2	18	Private	Dry	10,927.1000000(Square Meter)	1.0927100
3	19	Private	Dry	5,634.8400000(Square Meter)	0.5634840
4	20	Private	Dry	8,541.5200000(Square Meter)	0.8541520
5	23	Private	Dry	15,161.1000000(Square Meter)	1.5161100
6	28	Private	Dry	3,769.3000000(Square Meter)	0.3769300
7	34	Private	Dry	39,601.0210000(Square Meter)	3.9601000
Taluk: SAVADATTI					Village: Soppadla
1	81	Private	Dry	1,497.7400000(Square Meter)	0.1497740
2	84	Private	Dry	847.8640000(Square Meter)	0.0847864
3	85	Private	Dry	12,700.2000000(Square Meter)	1.2700200
4	86	Private	Dry	33,086.9000000(Square Meter)	3.3086900
5	87	Private	Dry	2,852.0200000(Square Meter)	0.2852020
			Total	881,122.5450	88.1122

[F. No. NHAI/PIU-HPT/15052/LA-03/2021-22/3A]

RAJESH GUPTA, Director

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GST Network glitch hits companies trying to retrieve ID number

Besides a defence manufacturing company, seven others are said to be affected

SHARAT S. SRIVATSA
BENGALURU

A Bengaluru-based defence manufacturing company whose GST Identification Number (GSTIN) has been blocked for non-payment of GST on time has been running around to get the suspension revoked, as a technical glitch in GST Network is coming in the way of its retrieval.

Commercial Tax Department sources say that the technical glitch has hit seven other companies for similar reasons.

While the GSTIN of ADD Engineering Components India Ltd. was suspended in March 2021 for non-payment of GST, it is yet to be revoked even after the company paid ₹17.5 lakh GST and a penalty of ₹2.5 lakh for not paying GST by December, 2021.

ADD Engineering Components supplies components to Indian defence programmes such as Brahmos project, Light Combat Aircraft Tejas and helicopters produced in HAL. It is also a supplier to Bharath Dynamics Ltd. and some ordnance factories in the country.

Efforts to cancel the suspension since February this year have not helped so far and Commercial Tax officials are not sure when the glitch will be set right.

GIRISH L.
director, ADD Engineering Components India Ltd.

On hold

"I have orders and am unable to execute them since I am unable to generate an e-way bill. I cannot send material to the companies nor can I claim refund on purchases. The pressure from banks to pay EMI is also building up," company director Girish L. told *The Hindu*. "Efforts to cancel the suspension since February this year have not helped so far and Commercial Tax officials are not sure when the glitch will be set right."

The trouble, he said, began after he failed to pay the GST due to COVID-19-induced restrictions when businesses were closed. The department, meanwhile, issued show cause notices for non payment of GST. "While in March 2021, my 15-digit GSTIN was suspended owing to non payment of GST, I have paid it with dues in December 2021 after my financial situation eased. However, my GSTIN has not been restored yet. "

In March 2022, the Joint Commissioner of Commercial Taxes (Appeals 2) directed the Commercial Tax Department to restore the GSTIN. Meanwhile, his tweets seeking a solution to his problems to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Seetharaman have also not helped.

First-time problem

A senior Commercial Tax official in the GST cell acknowledged the technical glitch in restoring the GSTN. "We are working on the situation and there are technical issues. The issue has been flagged to the GSTN. This the first time that such a problem has cropped up. There are seven other cases similar to this. Once the glitch is overcome, all the cases can be solved." The official said that the issue has also reached the GST Council, and it is being rectified. "We are aware of his business pressures but we also need some time to set things right."

Raghunath Rao Malkapure appointed pro tem Chairman of Legislative Council

Raghunath Rao Malkapure greeting Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Senior BJP member Raghunath Rao Malkapure has on Tuesday been appointed pro tem Chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council.

The order which comes into immediate effect was issued by Governor Thawarchand Gehlot on Tuesday based on the proposal sent by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. The appointment of pro tem Chairman was necessitated owing to the resignation of incumbent chairman Basavaraj Horatti on Monday.

The two-term member who has been a member of the house since 2012, will be the pro tem Chairman till the new chairman is elected. He has been appointed as per provisions of Article 184 of the Indian Constitution

While Mr. Horatti, whose term in the house was till July 4, resigned from the post and membership on Monday as he is joining BJP, the post of Deputy Chairman is vacant since December 2021. Since the re-election of M.K. Pranesh, who was the Deputy Chairman till then, in the elections held for 25 seats in the Legislative Council from local authorities, the ruling BJP has not announced its nominee for the Deputy Chairman post.

Since the post of chairman of Legislative Council is a constitutional one, the appointment of pro tem Chairman is necessary.

In a surprise move, JD(S) decides to field candidate for RS polls

Party is likely to field businessman-turned-politician Kupendra Reddy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU/MYSURU

In what is likely to add a twist to the polls to elect four members to Rajya Sabha from the State, the Janata Dal (Secular), despite not having the requisite number of votes, has decided to field its candidate.

The BJP and Congress with their strength in the Legislative Assembly are set to comfortably win two and one seats, respectively, in the polls scheduled to be held on June 10. While none of the three political parties having got the requisite number of votes for the fourth seat, the JD(S) move has raised curiosity.

Terms ending

The elections are being held as the term of three members and a vacant seat is coming to an end on June 30. They include the terms of BJP members, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and K.C. Ramamurthy, and senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh. One seat has been vacant since the death of Oscar Fernandes in September 2021.

H.D. Kumaraswamy

On Tuesday, former Chief Minister and Janata Dal (Secular) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy announced in Mysuru that the party had decided to field a candidate in the Rajya Sabha polls. "There is no question of the party extending support to a candidate fielded by other parties," he said. He explained that the surplus votes of the national parties after ensuring victory of two BJP candidates and one Congress candidate will not be enough for them to field another candidate. "So, our candidate will be in the fray," Mr. Kumaraswamy said.

The JD(S) Legislative Party meeting will be held in a couple of days to decide on the candidates for Rajya Sabha and also Legislative Council elections.

45 votes

As per a formula devised to elect the Rajya Sabha members from the Legislative Assembly, each candidate has to poll 45 votes to win.

With the BJP having 122 votes (including the speaker and an Independent), it can ensure victory of its two candidates while the Congress with 70 votes (including an Independent), the party can win one seat.

The JD(S) has 32 votes. All the 224 elected MLAs are eligible to vote in the election.

Secretariat sources said that though the second and third preference votes are available to the legislators, since it is an open ballot, the choice will be known. "It will be interesting to know who would support the JD(S) candidate," said a source.

Former MP

JD(S) sources said that the party is likely to field its former Rajya Sabha MP Kupendra Reddy, and leave the responsibility of getting additional votes from other parties on him. "Officially, JD (S) will not be seeking the support of BJP."

While the Congress is yet to meet formally to discuss its candidate, party sources said that it is likely to contest one seat only.

The BJP sources said that the Core Committee has recommended five names, including its sitting members Nirmala Sitharaman and K.C. Ramamurthy, and will contest two seats.

Araga warns those trying to challenge law and order

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Home Minister Araga Jnanendra on Tuesday warned anyone challenging law and order of stringent action.

He was responding to a question on the demand by a group called 'Narendra Modi Vichar Manch' that they should be allowed to worship at Masjid-e-Ala at Srirangapatna in Mandya district.

The group had approached the Mandya DC on May 13 claiming that the Masjid-e-Ala was 'Moodala Bagilu Anjaneya Swami temple'. They had alleged that the temple had been "destroyed" by the 18th century Mysuru ruler Tipu Sultan to build a mosque over it. "If anyone challenges law and order, then they will be dealt with accordingly. Everyone should live harmoniously. We will go by the court order," he said.

Priyank alleges irregularities in Ganga Kalyana scheme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Alleging irregularities in implementing Ganga Kalyana Yojane, Congress leader and former Minister Priyank Kharge on Tuesday alleged that some contractors had produced false documents pertaining to income tax and works executed in sinking 14,577 borewells worth ₹441 crore in the Social Welfare Department.

A High Court judge should investigate the matter, he added.

"In the past, I had alleged that irregularities had taken place in connivance with the tender scrutiny committee by taking permission from the Minister," he told pressperson here. He said that while in the schemes for the backward classes, a borewell has been sunk at a cost of ₹84,000, in schemes in the Social Welfare Department, a borewell has been sunk at the cost of ₹1.93 lakh. "Why is there a difference in the cost of sinking borewells?"

Work orders

He said that on March 3, the Under Secretary of the Social Welfare Department had ordered an inquiry and had sought a report within 15 days from the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. "However, on April 13, the Principal Secretary allowed the work to be continued but had said the bill will not be cleared if irregularities are found. Is this common sense? It is illegal to give the work order to those ineligible. If bill is not cleared, contractors will approach court for relief."

Mr. Kharge said that a fair investigation cannot be expected from the government, and the investigation should be handed over to a HC judge.

"So far no officer has been questioned. Why is that the documents that we have are not with the government? When investigation has been ordered, why is the work being allowed to continue?

In one voice

Members of ASHA Karyartheyara Sangha staging a protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Tuesday. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

Congress, JD(S) slam government over textbook redraft

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Opposition Congress and JD(S) have slammed the BJP government for redrafting textbooks - dropping a lesson on freedom fighter Bhagat Singh authored by G. Ramakrishna and including a speech by RSS founder K.B. Hedgewar.

Terming it an "anti-national" move, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar said he was concerned about the BJP trying to push its agenda through education. "Tomorrow they may want to edge out Mahatma Gandhi from textbooks," he said.

'Communally polarising children'

Congress leader V.S. Ugrappa said this was an attempt by the BJP to communally polarise children and said the move was not in line with Constitutional values and "against the values of Basavanna, Swami Vivekananda and other spiritual leaders." He appealed to the government to reverse the decision.

'An attack on Kannada identity'

JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy also came down on the changes made to the textbooks by the BJP government and characterised it as an attack on Kannada 'asmite' (identity) and called on Kannadigas to awaken and resist.

Meanwhile, the Department of Public Instruction (Karnataka Textbook Society) claimed that they had not dropped the lesson on Bhagat Singh.

JD(S) MLC Marithibbe Gowda hits out at Kumaraswamy

He condemns failure to field Keelara Jayaram in the Legislative Council election from South Graduates constituency

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

Hitting out at JD(S) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy over the party's failure to field long-time party worker Keelara Jayaram in the ensuing elections to the Legislative Council from South Graduates constituency, JD(S) MLC Marithibbe Gowda said he would not contest the next elections to the South Teachers' constituency.

Speaking to presspersons in Mysuru on Tuesday, Mr. Gowda, however, said he was not in touch with leaders of any other party. He added that he would quit the JD(S) in future, but would not take a decision on the matter at present. "A time will come for me to take a decision. But, I will not contest the next elections as a JD(S) candidate."

Marithibbe Gowda

Mr. Gowda claimed that the JD(S) had already decided against fielding him in the next elections to the Legislative Council from South Teachers constituency.

The disgruntled JD(S) MLC also sought to clarify that he had not accused the JD(S) leadership of issuing a ticket to H.K. Ramu to contest the elections to Legislative Council from the South Graduates' constituency by accepting money.

Meanwhile, former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, responding to the allegation that denial of ticket to Mr. Jayaram was because of his inability to spend money in the elections, said everybody knows that contesting elections in the present-day system requires spending of money.

However, the party favoured Mr. Ramu because of his "winnability."

Meeting on inter-departmental coordination

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Close on the heels of holding separate meetings of the Deputy Commissioners of districts and CEOs of zilla panchayats as part of the initiative to activate district administration, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday held a meeting of Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, and Secretaries of various departments to gear up administrative machinery at the State level.

After the meeting, the Chief Minister told mediapersons that Tuesday's meeting had looked into resolving issues related to coordination among various departments as part of measures to speed up the implementation of the Budget.

He said the officials were directed to immediately initiate the process of getting land with respect to schemes where there was a requirement of land. They were also told to complete the formalities of launching the schemes, including transfer of grants, within June, he noted.

To reduce decision-making slabs, Mr. Bommai said he had directed that any files sent by the DCs of districts should not go to an officer below the rank of the Deputy Secretary.

'Software templates only in Kannada'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Bommai on Tuesday said a notification would soon be issued making it clear that templates in software related to the government should be mandatorily in Kannada.

He was speaking after launching the e-Kannada Yojane in Bengaluru on Tuesday.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, IPC. Division No.1, Kalaburagi.

No.EE/KNNL/IPCD-1/tender/PB-4/SCP,TSP/2022-23/290 Date: 16.05.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Percentage tender Basis rate tenders of Amarja and Gandorinala Project, under SCP/TSP for the year 2021-22 are invited by Executive Engineer, KNNL IPC Divn No.1 Kalaburagi, the under signed on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL Bangalore from eligible KPWD CIVIL-I & III and above **Others. and SC** contractors for the following work. Details are as below.

1) No of Works : **03,** 2) Amount put tender Maximum and Minimum: **Max Rs, 7821731.77 Min Rs, 934756.87,** 3) EMD Amount tender Highest and Lowest : **Max Rs. 78218.00 Min Rs. 11684.00,** 4) Access to e-Tender document: **17.05.2022 at 11.00 AM,** 5) Last date for quarries : **23.05.2022 Up to 4.30 PM,** 6) The last date & Time for receipt of tenders: **24.05.2022 at 4.30. PM,** 7) Date & Time for Opening of Technical SI No, 1 and Financial bid for SI no. 02.03 : **26.05.2022 at 11.00. AM,** 8) Date and time for opening of financial bid for SI no,1 after approval of technical bid.**30.05.2022**

Further information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No 08472-220590) and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. All other terms and conditions as per original notification

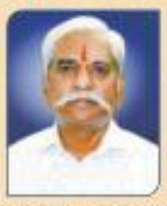
DIPR/Kalaburagi/146/MC&A/2022-23

SD/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
KNNL IPC Division-1, KALABURAGI

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

In Remembrance of



DOB- 07.07.1947 DOD- 25.04.2022

LATE SHRI SHAMANNA CHATNALLIKAR

Thank You...

For lightening the path of success for us to embrace and follow with wisdom, affection & values. It's your guiding spirit that has been and will always be the source of Inspiration for us. Although your body has departed, part of your soul will always be with US.

With Love
Beloved Wife, Children, Family & Friends.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

R.KANDEEPAN
Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure...
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure.
Fondly remembered by
Wife, Daughter and Friends

In Memory of your loved ones
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IN BRIEF

Palm fruit juice to hit Telangana markets soon

HYDERABAD

'Neera', the fresh juice of palm fruit, will soon be available as a packaged drink in Telangana, thanks to the efforts of the Palm Products Research and Development Institute (PRDI). Being unfermented, it is suitable for consumption by all, it says. "The response is good," said PRDI director V. Satyam

Now, A.P. hospitals must report all cancer cases

VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh has declared cancer as a notified disease following recommendation of the Indian Council of Medical Research. Cases have to be reported within a week of diagnosis. It suggested a registry programme for evaluation of cancer research and a control programme in the wake of rising cases.

Kerala Opposition to use K-Rail as plank in Thrikkakara bypoll

The ruling LDF moors its campaign to welfare and development platforms

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The United Democratic Front (UDF) appears intent on capitalising on K-Rail (SilverLine) as a forceful wedge issue in the Thrikkakara Assembly byelection.

It has already perceived a victory in the government's move to shun concrete markers for non-intrusive GPS based geotagging technology to demarcate the alignment of the semi-highspeed railway's 540-km-long transit line.

The UDF feels the symbolic gesture to placate residents angered by laying the pillars on their land would not pass muster with voters. Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan indicated that the second phase of the anti-SilverLine agitation was in the offing. He demanded the government withdraw the cases against K-Rail protesters, including homemakers and political workers.

The government was unlikely to heed to the UDF demand. It has reportedly sought legal opinion in the matter. Notably, the CPI(M) is pushing to build its victory in Thrikkakara on the development and welfare platform that stood the ruling front in good stead in the 2021 Assembly elections. Notably, its election campaign spotlighted Thrikkakara as the prospective hub of K-Rail operations.

Youth Congress workers protesting against the K-Rail project by placing a symbolic wreath on survey stones. •K.K. NAJEEB

CPI(M)'s charge

CPI(M) State secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan said the Congress and the BJP were acting in tandem to scuttle K-Rail out of political spite. They feared the SilverLine would put the Left Democratic Front (LDF) on the path to victory in the 2026 Assembly polls.

Moreover, the BJP had ensured that the Centre's railway development schemes bypassed Kerala. Furthermore, the Opposition lacked any specific plan to tackle thorny issues such as the need for an affordable, future proof and non-polluting mass rapid transport system.

The UDF also highlighted corruption as a significant talking point in Thrikkakara.

A hodgepodge of other issues could also inform the competing campaigns in the run-up to the byelection on May 31.

One more body located in stone quarry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUNELVELI

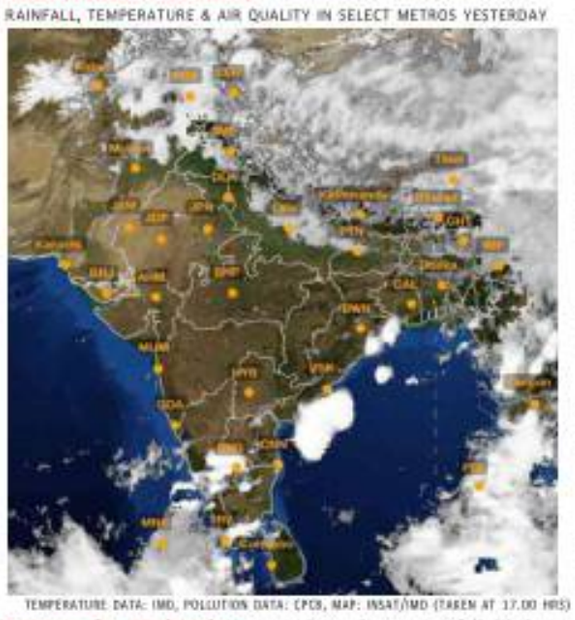
After extricating a decomposed body from the Adaimithippaankulam stone quarry in Tirunelveli district on Monday night, personnel of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the Fire and Rescue Services located one more body under large boulders on Tuesday.

With this, the toll in the accident has risen to three.

Two persons were rescued alive on Sunday morning. They are earthmover operators Murugan, 40, of Vittilaapuram near Seythunganallur in Thoothukudi district, and J. Vijay, 27, of Naattaarkulam. Though another earthmover operator S. Selvam, 25, of Idaiyankulam, was extricated alive from the mangled earthmover on Monday, he succumbed to injuries.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, south interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	21	31.0	22.7	Kozhikode	15	30.6	25.0
Ahmedabad	–	41.6	27.2	Kurnool	2	38.0	27.3
Aizawl	–	25.2	23.4	Lucknow	–	43.0	29.5
Allahabad	–	45.1	29.0	Madurai	40	33.9	25.2
Bengaluru	6.4	27.6	21.1	Mangaluru	92.8	28.5	22.6
Bhopal	–	42.7	25.2	Mumbai	–	34.5	27.6
Bhubaneswar	–	36.6	27.6	Mysuru	87	28.0	18.4
Chandigarh	–	40.9	27.1	New Delhi	–	41.1	27.5
Chennai	–	35.2	26.3	Patna	–	39.4	27.4
Coimbatore	–	32.9	23.6	Port Blair	28	29.7	24.7
Dehradun	0.6	36.8	22.0	Puducherry	–	34.1	26.0
Gangtok	0.1	21.1	15.9	Pune	–	39.1	24.6
Goa	0.2	34.0	27.5	Raipur	–	41.8	29.0
Guwahati	40	28.2	22.1	Ranchi	–	39.2	26.9
Hubballi	–	32.0	23.0	Shillong	60	21.6	15.5
Hyderabad	–	36.8	27.3	Shimla	10	26.4	13.4
Imphal	14	22.2	20.8	Srinagar	–	28.3	12.5
Jaipur	–	41.2	31.3	Thiruvananthapuram	17	30.5	24.3
Kochi	19	27.8	24.0	Tiruchi	–	35.1	26.0
Kohima	9	20.4	14.8	Vijayawada	–	38.0	28.0
Kolkata	–	35.8	28.6	Visakhapatnam	–	34.4	29.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	7	–	53	280	186	
Bengaluru	11	32	35	79	93	
Chennai	5	17	74	26	58	
Delhi	15	43	65	293	319	
Hyderabad	5	19	43	93	93	
Kolkata	6	91	13	27	43	
Lucknow	8	42	83	280	309	
Mumbai	4	14	57	310	155	
Pune	69	130	31	325	279	
Visakhapatnam	20	28	9	29	65	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dharuhera, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 328 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ramanagara, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 28

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease.

People at bottom of pyramid real movers of economy: Bommai

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The inclusion of people at the bottom of the pyramid is critical since they are the real movers of the economy, said Basavaraj Bommai, Chief Minister, Karnataka.

Inaugurating EXCON, South Asia's largest construction equipment (CE) trade fair organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) here on Tuesday, the CM said, "Though our major focus should be growing exponentially in the country by advancing our technologies, the inclusion of people at the bottom of the pyramid is also critical since they are the movers of the economy."

He urged global captains of the CE sector gathered at the event to collaborate with communities at the bottom of the pyramid to further the growth of the CE sector in particular and economy in general. The CE sector was expected to contribute greatly towards the country reaching its ambitious target of $5 trillion economy by 2025, the CM said. "The infrastructure sector is receiving an intense push from the government, propelling India's overall development and GDP. The policies announced by the Union government will ensure a timebound creation of world-class infrastructure in the country."

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Union Minister of State for Road Transport & Highways General V.K. Singh at the inauguration of the 11th edition of CII EXCON - 2022, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Business opportunities

Mr. Bommai said his State offered huge business opportunities for the construction industry, as it was embarking on major infrastructure development projects in roads, flyover, industrial infrastructure and power, even as the Union government has committed ₹100 lakh crore for major infrastructure and industrial projects in the next five years.

Speaking at EXCON, V.K. Singh, Union Minister of State for Road Transport & Highways, said, India was an emerging hub for construction equipment, component outsourcing base and design base.

"The private players in the construction industry must concentrate on automation, adoption of advanced technologies and global best practices, usage of alternate fuels, and innovations in using waste materials as raw materials for their construction projects to diminish the cost of construction and rate of pollution," he added.

According to Mr. Singh, infrastructure must be sustainable and the industry should take measures to enhance the quality at an affordable life cycle cost. "We are working hard on hydrogen fuel technology and solar energy since we consider it as the future of the country. The CE industry must be prepared for the competitive market situation and focus on Industry 4.0 for revamping itself," he urged."

Over 800 exhibitors from India, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, UAE, UK and US are participating in the five-day EXCON.

Cheque bounce: 'Separate criminal proceeding for cheating permissible'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A criminal proceeding for cheating under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) is maintainable in law even after initiation of a separate proceedings under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments (NI) Act, 1881, in a cheque dishonour case, said the High Court of Karnataka.

"In a case under the NI Act, what is required to be noticed is whether it is for a legally enforceable debt and a fine is imposed. In an offence involved on the same instrument under Sections 406 or 420 IPC, a sentence of seven years can be imposed and the element of *mens rea* is what is required to be seen in a case for offence of cheating under Section 420 of the IPC inter alia," the High Court said.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by directors of a company questioning lodging of a First Information Report under Section 420 of the IPC against them by the complainant , who had initially initiated proceedings under Section 138 (Dishonour of cheque for insufficiency, etc., of funds in the account) of the NI Act.

Initiation of separate proceedings for cheating under IPC in addition to proceedings under Section 138 of NI Act does not amount to 'double jeopardy', the High Court said.

Government Of Karnataka
Deputy Commissioner Office, Koppal
District Urban Development Cell
District: Koppal State: Karnataka
Office Ph : 08539-221895. e-mail : itstaff_dudc_koppal@yahoo.com
Fax No : 08539-221235

Ref. No: 25879/KPDUDC/11020/01/2021 Date: 17 -05-2022

:: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) ::

The Deputy Commissioner, District, Koppal invites **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)** for PPP mode development of adventure zone other allied facilities of Hulikere lake Koppal. Last date at time **08/06/2022** submission of the proposed in **5.00 PM.** In that eligible applicants may submit the proposal to **DC Office Koppal.** For more details and clarifications Please visit www.koppal.nic.in or DUDC, DC Office Koppal during office working hours.

Sd/- **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,** KOPPAL

DPR/KOPPAL/86/2021-22/DEVELOPMENT PUBLICITY

T.834, Shanmuga Nagar Co-operative Building Society Ltd.,
No. 1, Kannan Nagar, Kunthavai Nachiar Govt Womens Arts College (opp)
Thanjavur - 613007. Tamilnadu - India
Phone No: 04362 - 275246 / 274855

SITES FOR SALE

Applications are invited through e-Tender Cum Auction for the sale of vacant sites plots owned by the above Co-operative building society. The detailed particulars are available by the following web site **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**

Secretary (i/c) President (i/c)

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

No. EEP/e-tender/A1/A2 Dated: 14.05.2022

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

E-tenders are published in GoK e-portal **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** under "**GOODS**" category on **09.05.2022, 10.05.2022, 11.05.2022, 12.05.2022, 14.05.2022** as per RTPS requirements **Tender No. BRIEF DETAILS OF GOODS Procurement of: 1) RTPS/MRP54/G/21-22/4010/CALL-2** Special Electrodes. **2) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3741** Mill Spares Breaded Plug, Journal Head Skirt. **3) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3789** Pipes & Deflector Plates. **4) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3726** Washers, Shims & Strainers for Boiler Maintenance. **5) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3755** Arms, Plain Bearing, Split Bush for Rapping spares. **6) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3774** Filter Elements for Mill in RTPS. **7) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3709** APH Seals & its Spares. **8) RTPS/MRP54/G/21-22/4005/CALL-2** Spares for BFP Re-circulation Valve. **9) RTPS/MRP54/G/21-22/4006/CALL-2** Flexible Coupling & its spares. **10) RTPS/MRP54/G/21-22/4041/CALL-3** Spares for Solenoid Control Valves of EMS 4. **11) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3782** Mill Reject Handling System Spares. **12) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3754** Bowl Mill Spares transition piece, SS Gate. **13) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3794** Raw Coal Feeder Spares. **14) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3779** Grinding Rolls & Bull Ring Segments for Bowl Mills on ARC for 2 years. **15) RTPS/MRP52/G/21-22/3738** APH Spares Adopter Sleeve, Concentric Reducer. **16) RTPS/MRP10/G/21-22/4256** Cables for all projects of KPCL. **17) RTPS/MRP40/G/21-22/3936** Smoke dectectors & fire alarm control panel to RTPS. **18) RTPS/MRP40/G/21-22/3834/CALL-2** Insulated mat to RTPS. **19) RTPS/MRP62/G/21-22/1469/CALL-2** Hoist & spares for CHP. **20) RTPS/MRP62/G/21-22/1431/CHP** Conveyor pulleys for CHP RTPS. Last date and time for receipt of tenders: For Sl. No. 1 & 11: **04.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 2: **16.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 3: **26.05.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 4 & 6: **27.05.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 5: **01.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 7 & 19: **30.05.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 8, 9, 13 & 16: **06.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 10, 12 & 20: **07.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 14: **14.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 15: **09.06.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 17, 18: **24.05.2022, 16.00 Hrs.** All relevant details of the bids are available in the above mentioned e-portal. Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (Purchase),** RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Dist. Raichur, Mobile: 94496 96527. E-mail: eeprtps@gmail.com

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521
No.B31/SEE(IT&MIS)/EE(NW&DC)/33911/2022-23 Date: 17.05.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Mode only)

KPTCL invites bid against bid enq.No.**B31/SEE(ITMIS)/EE(NWDC)/AMC/COMPS/2022/5** for **AMC of Computers at KPTCL Corporate Office.**

The bids will be received through e-procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the enquiry can be obtained by logging onto KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **'e-procurement'** on or after **18.05.2022, 5.00 PM.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, Elec.,** IT&MIS, KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-09

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: SEE/EE/Tr/W&M/DVG/EE/AEE-2/F-114/22-23/Cys-07 Date: 16.05.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement Mode Only)

KPTCL invites tenders in the prescribed form from Super Grade Licensed Electrical Contractor for the following work **on Total Turnkey Basis.**

Bid Enquiry No: **KPTCL/SEE/Tr(W&M)/DVG/EE/AEE-2/21-22/967 CALL-2/11.05.2022** for Dismantling, Transportaion (To & Fro), Repair of faulty Power Transformer, Testing, Assembling, Erection and Commissioning of Repaired faulty Power Transformer of 8 MVA, Kanohar MAKE 66/11kV CLASS, SL.NO.KT-8000/18 lying at 66/11KV Balenahalli Station.

Tenders will be accepted through e-procurement Mode only. For further details, prospective Bidders are advised to log on to website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** & click on to hyperlink **e-Procurement-kptcl** to participate in e-procurement portal **on or after 18.05.2022.D**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele), Tr. (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Near Stadium, Hadadi Road, Davangere. Ph: 08192-250774.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagar Division, 8th Cross, 12th A Main Road, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560 038

No.EE/CVR/E-Proc/05/2022-23 Date: 16.05.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System)

The Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagar Division, invites tenders from reputed consultancy firms for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Description of Services	DPR Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Consultancy Service for detailed project report, field survey general report, basic drawing technical report, detailed drawing, detailed cost, estimate for the work Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains, Footpaths, Parks and Buildings in C.V. Raman Nagar Assembly Constituency Ward No. 50, 57, 58 (Package-1) (Rs. 75.00 Crores).	37.5	75,000/-
2	Consultancy Service for detailed project report, field survey general report basic drawing technical report, detailed drawing, detailed cost, estimate for the work Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains, Footpaths, parks and Buildings in C.V. Raman Nagar Assembly Constituency Ward No. 79, 80, 88, 113 (Package-2) (Rs. 75.00 Crores).	37.5	75,000/-

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement portal. **2)** Date of Pre-bid Meeting: **24.05.2022 at 11.30 Hrs. 3)** Last date for receipt of tender documents: **26.05.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs. 4)** Opening of Technical Bids: **27.05.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, C.V. Raman Nagar Division.

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19. NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

FROM PAGE ONE

Governor gives assent to anti-conversion Ordinance

The anti-conversion Bill was adopted by the Legislative Assembly in December 2021 while it is yet to be brought up before the Upper House.

Referring to a delegation of Christian religious leaders petitioning Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot against the Ordinance on Monday, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra insisted that the legislation did not aim to target any religion. It was only an effort to prevent conversion by force or allurement, he said.

The Ordinance did not have any clause that seeks to curtail the Constitutional rights of any religion, he maintained.

Among other things, the Ordinance seeks to punish violators with imprisonment of three to five years and a penalty of ₹25,000. Instances of forced conversion of a minor or a person of unsound mind or a woman or a person belonging to the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe are punishable with imprisonment of three to 10 years and a fine of ₹50,000. Mass conversion would be punished with imprisonment of three to 10 years and a fine of ₹1 lakh.

The Opposition has slammed the legislation itself as well as the need to take the Ordinance route.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER BALANGIR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BALANGIR
E-mail:sebalangir@gmail.com

"e- Procurement Notice" - BID Identification No: SE, BOIC- 01/2022-23
Letter No. 719 Date : 13.05.22

The Addl. Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on-line **percentage rate** tender through e-procurement in **double cover** system for execution of work under **Deposit from Health & family welfare Department**. The bids should be submitted by concerned Class contractors (as mentioned against each work) registered / empanelled with state Government of Odisha & contractors of equivalent grade / class registered with other State Governments / central Government / Government undertakings / MES / Railways / other statutory authorities and must registered under CDMS portal for execution of works to be eventually drawn in P-1 form through on-line in the Government website **https://www.tendersorissa.gov.in**. The bidders should have necessary portal enrollment (with own digital signature certificate). The registered bidders outside of Odisha state can also participate in this on-line tender process after necessary portal enrollment but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with appropriate authority of the State Govt. within a month of acceptance of bid.

The bidders may submit bids for the following works.

Pkg. No	Name of works	Approx. Tender Cost in lakh	Class of Contractor	Bid Security/ EMD-(online) (in INR)	Cost of tender document- (online) (in INR)	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Construction of Low level RCC Weir with minimum depth of Impoundage of 1.00m above Dry weather flow level across the river Pilisalki near village Pitabari for piped water supply to medical college & Hospital, Phulbani.	Rs.385.47 (excluding G.S.T.)	'A' & 'B' Class	NIL (Bid Security Declaration to be furnished)	Rs.10,000/-	12 (Twelve) Calendar Months

Procurement Details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender on-line for bidding From	To	Date of Seeking tender clarification	Date& Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid	Place of opening
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Addl Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir	SE BOIC-01/ 2022-23	Dt.20.05.2022 at 10.00 hours	Dt.09.06.2022 up to 17.30 hours	Dt.31.05.2022 at Office during office hours	Dt.10.06.2022 at 11.00 Hours	To be intimated after evaluation of Technical Bid	Office of Addl Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal - https://tendersorissa.gov.in

A-185: Addl Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir

OIPR-32113/11/0001/2223

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - K.R. Pura Division, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE/RI-KRP/TEND/01/2022-23 Date: 16-05-2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)-(SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - K.R. Pura Division, invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Tenderers for the work detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Emergency Works in Road Infrastructure Mahadevapura (K.R. Pura) Division for the year 2020-21	44.19	88,500/-

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in from 18-05-2022. 2)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-Procurement Portal **on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 31-05-2022. 3)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **01-06-2022 at 11.00 Hrs. at Office of the Executive Engineer - Mahadevapura Division.** Further details can be had from the above office

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RI-K.R. Pura Division, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Symbolism and beyond

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Lumbini served a useful but limited purpose

India's current regime has a penchant for symbolism and optics, a tendency that becomes more pronounced when the symbolism is religious. So it was not a surprise that Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a short visit to Lumbini in Nepal on Buddha Jayanti. Lumbini, in Buddhist tradition, is the birthplace of Gautama Buddha and Mr. Modi along with his Nepali counterpart laid the foundation stone for the India International Centre for Buddhist Culture and Heritage in the Lumbini Monastic Zone. The Centre will play a role in challenging the preponderance of the Chinese sponsorship and patronage of the Buddhist festivals and institutions in the area. It could also be a harbinger of a focused development of the area into a tourist and cultural hub for pilgrims and other visitors. To that end, the PM's visit would have been welcomed by his Nepali counterpart. With the PM also unequivocally asserting that Lumbini was the birthplace of Gautama Buddha, who was born as Siddhartha, this should put to rest a needless irritant in the India-Nepal relations, with some hyper-nationalist Nepalis claiming that the Indian government had a different belief on the Buddha's origins. The visit also coincided with the signing of a few MoUs, the most prominent being the development and implementation of the Arun-4 hydropower project. The PM's visit followed his counterpart Sher Bahadur Deuba's trip to India in April, which thawed relations after a series of controversial steps (during the tenure of Mr. Deuba's predecessor, K.P. Oli) on the Kalapani dispute.

Mr. Modi's speech in Lumbini sought to highlight the strong cultural ties between the two countries, which already share a special relationship, cemented by the Treaty of Peace and Friendship signed in 1950. There are several irritants that have developed, straining this relationship, and for now there seems to be a concerted attempt by both regimes to return to bonhomie, with the Indian government seeking to utilise "religious diplomacy" as a means to emphasise the special relationship. But there have been significant changes in Nepal's political-economy, in particular a substantial reduction in the Nepali youths' dependence on the Indian economy as compared to the past. Beyond a soft power emphasis on cultural ties, India-Nepal relations need to graduate to a more meaningful partnership on economic and geopolitical issues, with the Indian government continuing to retain a substantial role in partnering the Nepali regime in development projects. The challenge is to utilise the return of bonhomie in ties to refocus on work related to infrastructure development in Nepal, which includes hydropower projects, transportation and connectivity, and which could benefit the citizens of the adjoining States in India as well. Symbolism, after all, is useful only to a certain extent.

Thought and action

The Chintan Shivir did little to enforce accountability at the Congress's top leadership

The three-day Nav Sankalp Chintan Shivir of the Congress in Udaipur has charted an action plan for its revival. The proof will be in its implementation, but at a minimum it acknowledges the party's shortcomings. The party plans to give more opportunities to the youth, limit dynastic politics with a 'one family, one ticket' rule, and have a new deal for socially weaker groups such as the Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and the minorities. In a major deviation from its earlier position, the Congress is now backing sub-quotas for SCs, STs and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the women's reservation Bill that has been hanging fire for long. A Social Justice Advisory Council is to advise the Congress president on issues regarding socially weaker groups. Half of the party posts are to be filled with people under the age of 50, a principle that will be applied in the selection of candidates too. Other measures announced include a Public Insight Committee to gather feedback on key political issues, a training institute to bring ideological clarity for party workers, and a committee for constant election preparedness – all aimed to overcome the inertia and decadence that have immobilised the party.

The Chintan Shivir was prompted by the party's repeated electoral failures and serious questions about the effectiveness of the leadership of the Gandhi family, but it did very little in terms of addressing and enforcing the principle of accountability at the top. In fact, the three-day brainstorming session saw a clear assertion by the Gandhis. Amid demands by leaders of the G-23 – the ginger group purportedly pushing for internal reforms and collective leadership – to revive the Congress Parliamentary Board, party chief Sonia Gandhi announced the setting up of an advisory group from among the senior Congress Working Committee members. Ms. Gandhi made it clear that there would not be collective decision-making and that her word was final. While such an assertion may convey the message of being in control, that is no solution to the sagging popularity of the party and the family. Former party chief Rahul Gandhi admitted that the party had lost its connect with the people, but did not offer anything new. Udaipur was an assertion of his role at the helm, which will in all probability be formalised in the forthcoming organisational election. A Bharat Jodo (Unite India) yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and Jan Jagran Abhiyan (public awareness campaign) as ideas sound good, but a lot will depend on his ability to reinvent himself in an era that rewards and punishes individual leaders disproportionate to their role. If the Udaipur meet is not to end up as a new bargain among power brokers and interest groups, the party will have to immediately begin a process of regeneration free of nepotism and avarice.

The world must live and work together again

The idea of our common humanity ought to be strengthened — and not destroyed as the 'virus and the war' have done

SHASHI THAROOR

I spent nearly three decades at the United Nations singing the virtues of multilateralism, but today I am not so sure of its prospects.

A backlash

It started with a backlash against globalisation that took two forms: economic and cultural. The economic backlash was straightforward. The poor and the unemployed in the developed world began to feel that they had no stake in the globalised system, and demanded to know why their governments' policies benefited people in faraway lands such as China and India with what used to be *their* jobs. They wanted to reduce the growing inequality in every "developed" economy and go back to the security of older, more familiar economic ways, in which each generation assumed they would earn more and live better than their parents did.

The cultural backlash derived from the same resentment but expressed itself in a different arena: the political denunciation of global trade led to hostility towards foreigners, as more and more people sought the comforts of traditional identity and ways of life. Animated often by bitter working-class and lower-middle class resentment of global elites, the "masses" rejected the entire brew of liberal politics, cosmopolitans and technocrats, trade agreements, immigration, multiculturalism and secularism in the name of cultural rootedness, religious or ethnic identity and nationalist authenticity. Some saw the world as divided, in David Goodhart's formulation, between the "somewheres" and the "anywheres": the "anywheres" being people who are comfortable anywhere on the planet, flit from business-class lounge to five-star hotel and join international gatherings, whereas the "somewheres" are rooted in one place, immersed in one religious culture, speak one language and share one ethnicity.

Political opportunity

Political leaders were quick to seize the opportunity to tap into both kinds of backlash against globalisation. Populist leaders such as Donald Trump, who rose to the presidency of the United States on slogans of "America First" and "Make America Great Again", and a host of others – from Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil and Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Turkey to Viktor Orbán of Hungary and Narendra Modi of India – successfully persuaded their voters that they were more authentic embodiments of their nations than the allegedly rootless secular cosmopolitans they sought to displace. Others have been rising, from the Alternative für Deutschland in Germany and the Freedom Party of Austria to the Party for Freedom in the Netherlands and Marine Le Pen and Éric Zemmour in France, none of whom has won national elections but who came close enough to shift the national discourse. Together, such parties and leaders, combining nationalist fervour with popular prejudices, have made nationalism the default model of national self-definition. (And should we now, after Ukraine, anoint Russian President Vladimir Putin the Chairman of an oxymoronic "Nationalist International"?)

If these were trends that preceded the pandemic, they have, rather worryingly, accelerated over the course of the last two years. The COVID-19 pandemic confirmed, for many, that in times of crisis, people rely on their governments to shield them; that global supply chains are vulnerable to disruption; and that dependence on foreign countries for essential goods (such as pharmaceuticals, or even the ingredients that go into making them) could be fatal. Nations tried aggressively to acquire medicines, supplies and vaccines for their own people at the expense of each other. There was a rush to reset global supply chains and raise trade barriers: the demand arose for more protectionism and "self-reliance". The Russian invasion of Ukraine forced all of our countries to grapple with the limitations on state sovereignty, the credibility of the UN Charter, new disruptions of supply chains and trade, energy inter-dependence and the future of warfare.

GETTY IMAGES

A vulnerable world

Ukraine and the pandemic have reminded us that much of what seemed to be knitting the world ever closer together – and which we till recently took for granted – was vulnerable. The world economy had thrived since globalisation began in 1980 on an open system of free trade. That had already been shaken by the financial crash of 2008-09 and the American trade war with China. The novel coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated these challenges, with estimates suggesting that nearly a third of global trade fell in 2020, though a gradual recovery trajectory is now starting to emerge. Now, the sanctions on Russia have severely restricted trade, investment and financial flows into and out of that country.

COVID-19 has also convinced many that foreigners are to be feared, that strict border and immigration controls are essential, that countries cannot always expect useful help from their neighbours and allies, and that national interests should trump international cooperation. Instead, the emphasis is on sovereignty, nationalism and self-protection. The UN has every reason to worry about its continuing relevance, with its perceived inertia in preventing the war or even mitigating the invasion of the sovereign borders of one of its own member-states by another, a permanent member of the Security Council.

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic was a "mega-shock" to the global system. As sovereignties are reasserted across the world, and treaties and trade agreements increasingly questioned, multilateralism, the once taken-for-granted mantra of international co-operation, could be the next casualty. It was already in danger of being eroded before the pandemic: Britain withdrawing from the European Union (EU), America leaving the landmark Paris climate agreement and President Trump pulling the United States out of the World Health Organization (WHO). Now, isolationist voices portray themselves as being vindicated.

WHO's response to the outbreak, with its indulgence of the official Chinese line, points to the waning legitimacy of international institutions. Many of our global institutions and their agencies suffer from politicisation, manipulation and a lack of representation, and independent leadership. Had global governance been working effectively, the world would have identified the coronavirus as soon as it emerged; sounded a global alarm earlier about its dangers; and identified and publicised the best practices that should have been adopted by all countries to prevent or limit its spread. That this did not happen is a damning indictment of the state of our new world disorder.

Regional implications

The phenomenon of "deglobalisation" has its regional implications too. Europe, once seen as a "poster child" for the virtues of regional integration, became the epitome of its limitations, since the "idea of Europe" crumbled quickly under the onslaught of the pandemic. The famous Schengen visa and the notion of border-free movement was the first casualty of COVID-19. The EU countries threw up the barriers at the first sign of the virus: it did not take them long to rediscover the disadvantages and limits of the very free movement of goods, services, capital and people that they had sworn by for five decades. Early in the pandemic, Italy, the first major centre of the COVID-19 crisis, was denied medical equipment by its EU neighbours, who introduced export controls instead of extending solidarity to their fellow Europeans in distress.

More governance needed

Yet, it is clear that the sheer complexity and immeasurability of our interdependence requires more global governance, not less. Turning our backs on multilateral institutions at the first sign of weakness is unfortunate. In my 29 years at the United Nations, the key lesson I learned is that the world is a better place when countries engage in dialogue, when they have a forum to talk through the problems they share rather than resorting to tit-for-tat responses on issues they disagree on. In the post-COVID-19 world, unfortunately, countries are turning their backs on such forums in their desire to reduce their exposure to external dangers. External forces do not only represent threats; they also involve opportunities that visionary leaders should seize.

The only hope for the future lies in international solidarity. When the current pandemic is over, the globe must learn lessons about what happened, and how international systems and institutions can be strengthened and radically reformed in order to forestall its recurrence. The same can be said about the ongoing war and sanctions. Instead of strengthening the capacity of our global institutions to cope with a future crisis, the world's reaction to the virus and the war may well end up destroying the most fundamental feature COVID-19 has exposed – the idea of our common humanity. We must not allow that to happen. We must learn to live and work together again.

Shashi Tharoor, MP (Congress), left the United Nations in 2007 as Under Secretary-General after having been India's candidate to serve as Secretary-General in 2006. He is the award-winning author of 23 books, including 'Pax Indica' (2012) and co-author of 'The New World Disorder' (2020)

Social science operates with multiple truths

Choosing a 'right' answer from a set of multiple choices does not do justice to the subject and nuances of social issues

SREEDEEP BHATTACHARYA

As educational institutions began reopening in full throttle after the COVID-19 onslaught, there was news of a Common University Entrance Test. Unfortunately, measurable indexes for elimination and selection are becoming increasingly dependent on precision and objectivity, which is immensely worrisome for the social sciences.

In grey, ambiguous areas

It is not that there is a dearth of aptitude tests around the country to sustain the rat race of 'competition success'. It is not that the pathetic and obsessive glorification of 'toppers' needs a top up. Still, our education policymakers often forget that the binary of a 'yes' and a 'no' is not an all-mighty sacrosanct truth. Discourses in the social sciences are often housed in between – in the much celebrated grey and ambiguous areas that are, literally and metaphorically, the liminal zones between 'true' and 'false'. While information such as dates, facts or events can be placed within the binary of right or wrong, the role of a higher educational institution is not to list or reproduce information, or to train students to do so. Textbooks, Google and an innumerable number of education-apps do that anyway.

The mandate of higher education is to nurture critical thinking that entails questioning; that includes a multiplicity of thoughts; and, most importantly, that offers multiplicity of choice that is not confined to two to five objective options in a multiple choice type question (MCQ)-scheme of answering.

For example, whether we are 'modern' or not cannot be answered with a 'yes' or a 'no'. We live in a society where we encounter an assimilation of modernity and tradition in every aspect of our everyday life. Modernisation of tradition and the deep-rooted presence of the traditional in our modern lives is a lived experience. Forces of modernity have not bulldozed tradition into obsolescence. At times, in some spheres, there is peaceful dialogue and negotiation between tradition and modernity. Or else, in certain other spheres, they are engaged in conflictual negotiations. How can this nuanced and complex dialectic be expressed by being tick-marked as a 'yes' or 'no'?

Opening up spaces

Social science deals with complex social facts and it attempts to make meaning of those through observational, analytical and argumentative skills. Which is why nothing can be distilled into a quiz-like game of 'true' or 'false'.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

The foundation of colleges and universities is premised on encouraging the spirit of a multiplicity of questions, multiple methods of observance, multiple modes of analysis and a coexistence of multiple arguments and counter-arguments. That sort of heterogeneity opens up spaces for diverse schools of thought, a variety of interpretations and interventions, and an existence of multiple perspectives – every stand point of which is valid in its own context.

One's position on any social issue – be it on caste-based-reservation; on cutting trees to make way for a highway, or on religious fundamentalism – is defined by a septicity of perspectives and contexts. As a reader or as a scholar, one is free not to agree with the other's claims and arguments. One is free to disagree with someone else's reading and interpretation of the text – provided it is backed by reason. That freedom to disagree is a gift of living in a modern world and practising social science – where the world is not reduced to the confinement of 'true' or 'false'. And that is how fresh ideas find grounding and recognition.

Going beyond the syllabus

And that is why – and that is how – a university experience is fundamentally different from a school experience. A good university constantly encourages its students to go beyond the syllabus. A good university mentors its students to question all the time instead of confining themselves to a limited set of binary answers. A good university allows its students to question everything instead of expecting them to fall in line. In a good university, one can question the text. One can question each other. One can question oneself. One can question one's social circumstances. One can question the architecture and the operational structure of the university itself. One can question one's teachers and all kinds of injustices and discriminations. And one can also question the idea of questioning as well. Knowledge production in institutes of excellence across the world is premised on questioning and criticising.

Doubting, disagreeing and dissenting is at the heart of higher education in any field, especially in the social sciences. Choosing a right answer from a limited set of choices is not only self-defeating but also goes against the spirit of critical thinking, and it does not do justice to the nuances of the social issues.

Social science operates with multiple truths. Like dialects, these truths alter, depending on one's perspectives and geographical location. Just like every dialect is dominant in its specific space (and there are no good or bad dialects) every perspective is valid in its own context and is beyond the simplistic 'true'/'false' binaries.

The social sciences have that enormous capacity to absorb those variations and differences. As students, we learn a lot more by choosing to disagree, deviate and criticise. We learn less or almost nothing by ticking or stating or remembering factual correctness. While trying to prepare for mindless entrance examinations, we often forget to examine the fact that the project of social science is inherently linked to 'subjectivity' and 'reflexivity'. While reducing all subjects to 'right' or 'wrong', we often forget that the objective of a multiple-choice-question is neither pro-multiplicity nor pro-choice or pro-questioning.

Sreedeep Bhattacharya is a sociologist with Shiv Nadar University

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

To read more letters online, scan the QR code

'Issue' in Varanasi

Our country was divided on the basis of religion. The Places of Worship Act, 1991, was brought in to ensure that religion does not become the basis for further conflicts in the country. However, the Gyanvapi Mosque issue is in danger of being added to the long list of religious disputes which have surfaced in recent years. Do these issues actually exist or are we being forced to believe that they do exist? Can we ever achieve peace by keeping alive the issue on the basis of which we were divided? An ordinary citizen is time and again reminded that India has a rich history. Does 'rich in history' mean many versions of history? Only a strong verdict by the judiciary can help resolve the dilemmas of our countrymen.

JYOTI,
Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh

■ Is it not criminal to be frittering away the nation's precious time and energy on issues such as the one in Varanasi at a time when a majority of people are in fear of the pandemic returning and who are also struggling in the wake of mounting inflation? The judiciary must stop the games of polarising forces and end the controversy forthwith.

MANOHAR ALEMBATH,
Kannur, Kerala

■ Looking for the past in the present is a delicate operation. What exactly are we looking for that is not already known to us? Do we in India not know that ours is a layered history, and that those who profess the 'Hindu' faith today remain the majority, and have acknowledged, accommodated and assimilated what this civilisation has wisely identified as the essential elements of all other faiths and beliefs? What lies beyond religious labels is common sense and goodwill.

VASANTHA SURYA,
Bengaluru

For women's rights

In the split verdict by the Delhi High Court, on the exception to Section 375 IPC, it is the stand by Justice Rajiv Shakdher that has the potential to become the Magna Carta in the chapter of women's rights, if upheld by the Supreme Court. Criminalising marital rape will continue to be debatable but with the inputs of Justice Shakdher, a beginning has to be made in the advancement of women's rights after marriage.

N.G.R. PRASAD,
Chennai

Mylapore murder

The gripping case of the grisly murder in Chennai, of a senior citizen couple immediately upon their return from the United States, is chilling. It is to the credit of the Chennai police that the case was solved in just hours. Perhaps the case is a wake-up call as far as revamping security arrangements for residences are concerned. Welfare associations need to consult the police.

MANI NATARAJAN,
Chennai

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

In the front-page story titled "Part of mosque sealed on claim of Linga find" (May 17, 2022), the reference to the inspection sessions lasting 135 *hours over three days* should have been inspection session lasting 135 *minutes on May 16*.

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail: readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

A concerted effort in re-imagining museums

While old museums are being modernised and upgraded, new ones are being established in India

G. KISHAN REDDY

Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya, in New Delhi. •PTI

On the occasion of International Museum Day on May 18, the Ministry of Culture has made admissions to all museums under its ambit free of cost for a week. This not only makes our art and culture accessible to all, but also provides us an opportunity to propagate our civilisational heritage.

The occasion also gives us an opportunity to look back at the progress that we have made in re-imagining our museums and cultural spaces. There has been a transformational shift in our perspectives of our heritage and this can be seen in our approach to preserve and promote it. First, there has been a shift from a museum-centric approach to a cultural spaces approach. Second, we have been able to build museums for specific purposes rather than rely on general purpose museums. And finally, we have looked at museums with a whole-of-government approach to ensure that museums provide a wholesome experience.

Cultural spaces approach

India is one of the few continuously inhabited civilisational states that continues to thrive. Therefore, our art, culture and heritage are not just available for viewing in museums but can be witnessed in our day-to-day activities. The festivals we celebrate, the deities we worship, the food we eat, and the dance and music performances we appreciate are all a testimony to our civilisational ethos. Keeping this in mind, our approach has been to continuously integrate our culture into our lives rather than to position them in museums. So, when the Prime Minister brings back stolen heritage from other countries, there is an attempt to restore it to the place it was taken from rather than to have it languish in the warehouse of a museum. It is with this underlying philosophy that the recently retrieved idol of Goddess Annapurna was returned to its rightful place at Kashi Vishwanath temple, Varanasi. There is now a plan to continue repatriating heritage objects to their original locations, wherever feasible. Similarly, the attempt to embed art and our civilisational heritage in places such as the new Central Vista Project also builds on this approach to have cultural spaces that are contiguous and transcend standalone buildings.

Specific purpose museums

In August 2013, in response to a question in Parliament on the government's plan to establish a National Tribal Museum in the country, the government at that time responded that there was no such plan. Today, to recognise the role of over 200 tribal freedom fighters across India who participated in about 85 revolts and uprisings against colonial rule, 10 tribal freedom fighter museums are being set up across the country. On the occasion of the first Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on November 15 last year, the Prime Minister launched the Birsa Munda museum in Ranchi.

Similarly, last month on April 14, on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya. The museum is a tribute to every Prime Minister of India since independence and showcases the contributions they made and the challenges they faced in their tenure.

In tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Prime Minister inaugurated the Statue of Unity in October 2018, which also contains a museum that chronicles the various facets of Patel in great detail.

These examples show the transformational journey that has been made in the last eight years. The strategic shift to specific theme-based museums, which have unique content and a definite purpose, also ensures that rich material is on display and the overall experience is wholesome. There have been several other attempts along these lines that are worth mentioning, such as the Biplobi Bharat museum in Kolkata, the arms and armour museum at the Red Fort, a gallery on Gautama Buddha in Delhi, and the museum on Jammu and Kashmir.

Whole-of-government approach

India is home to over 1,000 museums representing a rich and diverse blend of the cultural, religious and scientific achievements that our civilisation has witnessed over the years. These museums do not just lie under the control of the Ministry of Culture. Other Ministries manage the Railway museums, the crafts and textiles museums, and the food museum, to name a few. Therefore, the government is taking a whole-of -government approach to provide a wholesome experience to all stakeholders. To achieve this, as an example, the 25 science cities, centres and museums under the National Council of Science Museums, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture, are backed with a Memoranda of Understanding with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). This ensures that the spaces are being developed with expertise, fresh ideas and new thought. The use of digital technology to enhance user experience is not limited to the use of Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality, but to widen public access through modernisation and digitisation of collections and exhibitions. This is now a work in progress and is visible in the museums that have been recently inaugurated such as the Pradhan Mantri Sangrahalaya.

In all these efforts, there are challenges, but none of them are insurmountable. Breaking down silos to forge a whole-of-government approach in such a specialised domain requires new skills and perspectives and these are being developed. Human capacities and domain knowledge require continued upgradation, and the new Indian Institute of Heritage that is being set up as a world class university aims to address these challenges. There are also challenges in modernising our traditional museums from display spaces of past glory to making them more interactive, immersive experiences through technology interfaces, innovative curatorial skills and imaginative storytelling. Compared to new museums, successfully repurposing existing museum spaces needs more imaginative thinking and has a different set of challenges. The efforts in digitisation and reprography are painstaking processes that can take several years to complete.

With this renewed mandate of modernisation, upgradation, and establishment of new museums, we are bringing our institutions closer to international standards of museology in the 21st century. As a firm step in this direction, the Ministry of Culture organised a first-of-its-kind Global Summit on 'Reimagining Museums in India' in February this year. The learnings from the summit are being incorporated to devise a blueprint for the development of new museums, nurture a renewal framework, and reinvigorate existing museums. It is said that there is nothing more important than an idea whose time has come. Re-imagining museums in India is such an idea.

G. Kishan Reddy is the Union Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of Northeastern Region, Government of India

Improving cold chain systems

Robust cold chain systems are an investment in India's future pandemic preparedness

C.K. MISHRA

The pandemic has taught us a great deal. We have all become familiar with terms such as variants, waves, vaccine supply chains and quarantine. It has also encouraged an interest in preventive health technology, especially in vaccines. This interest is understandable, given that India accounts for the second highest caseload of COVID-19 globally. Once the vaccines were available, the nation had to take on the task of rolling out one of the largest vaccination drives in the world; this of course, is not new to India.

India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP), launched in 1985 to deliver routine immunisation, showcased its strengths in managing large-scale vaccine delivery. This programme targets close to 2.67 crore newborns and 2.9 crore pregnant women annually. To strengthen the programme's outcomes, in 2014, Mission Indradhanush was introduced to achieve full immunisation coverage of all children and pregnant women at a rapid pace – a commendable initiative.

But the pandemic reminded us that vaccines alone do not save lives, vaccination does. While we have, over the years, set up a strong service delivery network, the pandemic showed us that there were weak links in the chain, especially in the cold chain, which needs to be robust and seamless.

Cold chain management

The success of any sustainable vaccination programme relies on many factors. A key factor is cold chain management because when this fails, the potency or effectiveness of the vaccine is wasted. Nearly half the vaccines distributed around the world go to waste, in large part due to a failure to properly control storage temperatures. In India, close to 20% of temperature-sensitive healthcare products arrive damaged or degraded because of broken or insufficient cold chains, including a quarter of vaccines. Wastage has cost implications and can delay the achievement of immunisation targets.

Here, India has strong foundations to build upon. India's UIP comprises upwards of 27,000 functional cold chain points of which 750 (3%) are located at the district level and above; the remaining 95% are located below the district level. The COVID-19 vaccination efforts relied on the cold chain infrastructure established under the UIP to cover 87 crore people with two doses of the vaccine and over 100 crore with at least a single dose. This effort was supported by the government's cloud-based digital platform CoWIN, which helps to facilitate registration, immunisations and appointments, and issues digital vaccine certificates, highlighting the benefits of digitisation.

The Health Ministry has been digitising the vaccine supply chain network in recent years through the use of cloud technology, such as with the Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN). Developed with support from Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and implemented by the UN Development Programme through a smartphone-based app, the platform digitises information on vaccine stocks and temperatures across the country. This supports healthcare workers in the last mile in supervising and maintaining the efficiency of the vaccine cold chain.

The role played by supportive infrastructure for cold chain such as a regular supply of electricity cannot be underplayed. In this regard, there is a need to improve electrification, especially in the last mile, for which the potential of solar-driven technology must be explored to integrate sustainable development. For instance, in Chhattisgarh, 72% of the functioning health centres have been solarised to tackle the issue of regular power outages. This has significantly reduced disruption in service provision and increased the uptake of services.

Building back better and stronger

COVID-19, which disrupted supply chains across countries and in India too, marks an inflection point in the trajectory of immunisation programmes. As we recover from the pandemic, there is an opportunity for us to pivot to newer mechanisms that can help develop unbroken and resilient cold chain systems and thus augment the immunisation landscape. Going forward, this will be the only way to ensure access to the last mile with life-saving vaccines, in time.

As we reflect on the learnings from the pandemic, it is imperative that we look towards a future where the critical arteries that comprise the supply chain of immunisation facilities be strengthened. India has pioneered many approaches to ensure access to public health services at a scale never seen before. Robust cold chain systems are an investment in India's future pandemic preparedness; by taking steps towards actionable policies that improve the cold chain, we have an opportunity to lead the way in building back better and stronger.

C.K. Mishra is Former Secretary, Government of India

STATE OF PLAY

A holy city's industrial dip

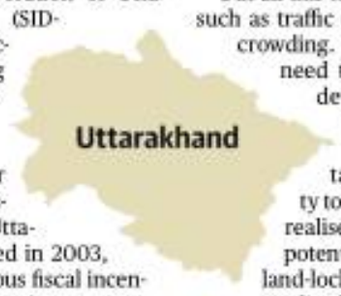
The Haridwar model is worthy of policy emulation

TANUSHREE CHANDRA

Haridwar is a well-known pilgrimage site. Little known, however, is the district's industrial face. A closer look at Haridwar's development trajectory reveals how the district was able to achieve this feat over 20 years.

Haridwar is one of the 112 districts under the government's Aspirational Districts Programme, launched in 2018. A key driver of socioeconomic growth in Haridwar is its vibrant and dynamic industrial township.

In 2002, the Uttarakhand government established the State Industrial Development Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited (SIDCUL), with the objective of catalysing industrial growth. This was reinforced with the Centre's 10-year concessional industrial package for Uttarakhand, announced in 2003, which granted various fiscal incentives for industry setting up operations in the State. Haridwar was identified for developing an Integrated Industrial Estate. The estate was established at Roshanabad in Haridwar.



The development of physical and social infrastructure in the city coupled with the provision of economic incentives attracted a diverse set of industries to the district, including automobiles, pharmaceuticals, electronics, FMCG, packaging, agro and food processing. Today, the industrial township is home to heavyweights such as BHEL, Hero MotoCorp Limited, and Hindustan Unilever Limited. Prior to 2003, Roshanabad and its adjoining areas were akin to ghost towns. Today, the SIDCUL-IIE in Haridwar has about 700 large industries and MSMEs.

The spillover benefits from the development of the industrial cluster have been many. From the industries' perspective, the clustering of economic activity reduced costs and provided access to a large local market and a skilled and unskilled labour pool. From the district's standpoint, the industrial hub provided employment to 52,000 formal workers and more informal workers. In addition, lakhs of individuals are employed in sectors that provide ancillary services to these industries. This industrial progress has accelerated developments in the district's social infrastructure – hotels, commercial complexes, malls, theatres and schools. A bonus benefit from these industries is their contribution to social development via corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives. From girls' toilets constructed by ONGC to basketball courts funded by Hero Honda, Haridwar's schools have undergone a dramatic and rapid transformation.

But all this has also created issues such as traffic congestion and overcrowding. There is an urgent need to optimise logistics, develop supply chains and address inefficiencies in transportation and connectivity to ensure that Haridwar realises its industrialisation potential. Since Haridwar is land-locked, producers have a cost disadvantage as they have to incur higher costs for movement of goods. Traffic congestion across the district delays cargo movement and adds to transaction costs, thereby reducing competitiveness. Inefficient warehousing is another bottleneck. It is critical to develop larger, integrated warehouses which can be used for production, packaging and storage across the district. For sustaining growth momentum in the long-term, investment in human capital is crucial. While education has been a priority over the years, health is an area that merits greater policy attention. Steps must be taken to invest in health infrastructure and address the acute shortage of health personnel across the district.

Haridwar has made remarkable strides in socioeconomic growth over the last few years. As aspirational districts across the country continue to embark on transformative journeys, Haridwar's SIDCUL-IIE model is definitely worthy of policy emulation.

Tanushree Chandra is a Young Professional, NITI Aayog. Views are personal

DATA POINT

Punching above their weight

On May 15, India won its first Thomas Cup, defeating 14-time champions Indonesia 3-0 in the final in Bangkok. It was a historic win as the last time the Indian badminton team managed to enter the semi-finals of the tournament was 43 years ago. The final against Indonesia was the most challenging as all the opponents were ranked higher than the Indian players and the head-to-head records were poor. Moreover, the number of top 10 players from India in the singles and doubles categories was lower compared to those from Indonesia.

By Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Rebecca Rose Varghese

❶ Jump through hoops

The table lists the difference in rankings between Indian players and their opponents in the knock-out rounds of the Thomas Cup which India won. **A negative number shows that the opponent had a better ranking.** The table also lists the wins recorded in head-to-head battles in the past with the opponent. **A negative number indicates that the Indian player had lost more matches than the opponent in such battles.**

Level*	Indian player	Opponent player	Rankings			Head to head		
			Indian's rank (A)	Opponent's rank (B)	B-A	Indian's wins (C)	Opponent's wins (D)	C-D
F	K. Srikanth	Jonatan Christie	11	8	-3	4	5	-1
F	Lakshya S	Anthony Ginting	9	5	-4	1	0	+1
F	Chirag S.	Kevin Sanjaya	9	1	-8	1	13	-12
F	Chirag S.	Mohammad Ahsan	9	2	-7	3	3	0
F	Satwiksairaj	Kevin Sanjaya	9	1	-8	1	12	-11
F	Satwiksairaj	Mohammad Ahsan	9	2	-7	3	3	0
S	K. Srikanth	Anders Antonsen	11	3	-8	2	3	-1
S	Prannoy	Rasmus Gemki	23	17	-6	1	2	-1
S	Chirag S.	Kim Astrup	9	10	+1	3	5	-2
S	Chirag S.	Mathias Christiansen	9	85	+76	0	0	0
S	Satwiksairaj	Kim Astrup	9	10	+1	2	5	-3
S	Satwiksairaj	Mathias Christiansen	9	85	+76	0	3	-3
Q	K. Srikanth	Ng Tze Yong	11	46	+35	1	0	+1
Q	Prannoy	Leong Jun Hao	23	124		0	1	-1
Q	Chirag S.	Nur Izzuddin	9	14	+5	5	1	+4
Q	Chirag S.	Sze Fei Goh	9	14	+5	6	1	+5
Q	Satwiksairaj	Nur Izzuddin	9	14	+5	5	1	+4
Q	Satwiksairaj	Sze Fei Goh	9	14	+5	5	1	+4

For doubles players, head-to-head battles were considered regardless of who the player paired with in the past. For instance, in the past, Chirag Shetty as a doubles player had 13 losses and one win against Indonesia's Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo as a doubles player. Put together, in those 14 matches, Chirag's or Sukamuljo's partner was irrelevant to this calculation. Similarly, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy had 12 losses and one win against Sukamuljo in the past. Shetty and Rankireddy, ranked 9 in doubles, defeated Sukamuljo and Ahsan ranked one and two respectively, in the finals

❷ Breaking the mould

The table shows the levels reached by select countries in the Thomas Cup from 1990 to 2022. ■ indicates winners; ■ runners-up; ■ semi-finalists; ■ quarter-finalists; ■ did not enter knock-out rounds; ■ did not qualify. India is the only country that did not enter the semi-finals even once during this time period before winning in 2022

*F: Finals, S: Semis, Q: Quarters

Source: BWF

Years	India	Indonesia	Denmark	Malaysia
2022				
2020				
2018				
2016				
2014				
2012				
2010				
2008				
2006				
2004				
2002				
2000				
1998				
1996				
1994				
1992				
1990				

❸ Squad depth

The table lists the number of players in the top 50 world rankings as of May 3, 2022. India had one singles player in the top 10, while Indonesia and Denmark had two. India had only two doubles players in the top 10, while Indonesia had six

	Single Rankings				Doubles Rankings			
	Country	1 to 10	11 to 25	26 to 50	Country	1 to 10	11 to 25	26 to 50
	Denmark	2	2	1	Indonesia	6	6	2
	Indonesia	2	1	2	Japan	6	2	4
	India	**1**	**3**	**3**	Malaysia	2	6	2
	China	1	2	3	Taiwan	2	2	4
	Japan	1	2	2	**India**	**2**	**0**	**6**
	Taiwan	1	1	0	Denmark	2	0	4
	Malaysia	1	0	2	England	0	4	2
	Singapore	1	0	0	South Korea	0	4	2
	Thailand	0	2	2	China	0	2	6
	Hong Kong	0	2	0	Germany	0	2	2
	France	0	0	3				

The rankings in all tables were as of May 3, 2022

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 18, 1972

Hazard of the frozen smile

Washington: No one talks about it, but there are definite medical hazards involved in running for the Presidency of the United States. One that is increasingly a problem has to do with a candidate's face. Anyone who has been following the Democratic primaries on television knows that every Presidential hopeful always has a smile on his face. What people don't know is that these smiles are frozen there and the longer the primaries go on, the less chance the candidates have of wiping them away. A plastic surgeon named Cooke told me, "Most of the candidates running for the Presidency have been smiling steadily for five months. By the time they get to Miami they will have smiled for eight months. The muscles controlling these smiles will have hardened them into place. I fear that by the time election day comes we could wind up with a President with a permanent stupid grin on his face." "I don't know," I said. "Everybody likes to see a happy President. It's all right to have a happy President," Cooke said. "But what happens when he attends the funeral of another head of State? Suppose he has to go on television and tell the people the cost of living has gone up 25 per cent, and unemployment has reached a new high. He'd look pretty silly doing that with a smile."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 18, 1922

Race prejudice

Colonel Gidney's advice to Anglo-Indians to walk "hand in hand" with Indians is always vitiated by a race prejudice that renders such advice nugatory. In his famous Bangalore speech, in his familiar vein of exhortation, Colonel Gidney and his kin recognise that Anglo-Indians are Indians? and that their place is in the ranks of the Indian Auxiliary Forces? In the Calcutta speech of the 2nd May, he urged Anglo-Indians to "range themselves on the side of the Government" as if the Government were necessarily in opposition to the people. Had the Colonel said: "Cast away as untenable every idea of racial difference or superiority and compete, in every-day life, with Indians as Indians, expecting nothing more than a fair field and no favour; enter into trade, learn handicrafts; become sailors on the P. and O. and other steamer lines; drop your expensive way of living; give up drink, save money, stand on your own feet, and win for the community the respect of the both Europeans and Indians as a factor to be reckoned with" – it would have been more to the purpose.

FROM PAGE ONE

Secure *Shivling* area in Gyanvapi mosque: SC

The top court "excluded" any of these reliefs "allowed" by the trial judge in his May 16 order. Instead, the Bench confined its order to only directing the protection of the specific area in which the *Shivling* has reportedly been found, without affecting the right of Muslims to offer prayers in the mosque.

Senior advocate Huzefa Ahamadi, for the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, the mosque's caretakers, asked how *namaz* could be performed without cleansing oneself at the *wazu khana*.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for Uttar Pradesh, suggested that "*wazu* could be done without disturbing the part" under protection. He apprehended a law and order problem if someone entered the protected area.

The court, however, did not agree with Mr. Ahamadi's plea for a complete stay of the proceedings before the trial judge.

The senior lawyer submitted that the string of orders passed by the trial court, right from when the Hindu women filed a suit for declaration of their right to worship at shrines believed to be present in the mosque complex, were "patently without jurisdiction and *non est*".

'Against 1991 Act'

Mr. Ahamadi argued that the trial judge's order violated Sections 3 and 4 of the Places of Worship Act, 1991 which mandated that "you cannot tinker with any place of worship which has been existing and where worship has been performed as on August 15, 1947".

The senior lawyer invoked the court's own ruling in the Ayodhya judgment that a mere claim of "historical wrong" cannot be the basis for changing the nature of a place of worship. He argued that the Allahabad High Court had in the past dismissed a similar petition seeking an Archaeological Survey of India survey at the mosque premises, supposedly to find the remains of a pre-existing temple.

"The protection of places of worship was a Constitutional guarantee... All the orders, including appointment of the Commission [to inspect the mosque premises], should come to a standstill. *Status quo*, as existed before the suit was filed, should be maintained," Mr. Ahamadi said.

He said the orders of the trial judge, including the one on May 16, were passed *ex parte*, that is, without hearing the other side. The trial judge had passed these orders instead of first deciding his client's challenge under Order 7 Rule 11 of the Civil Procedure Code, seeking the rejection of the women's suit for lack of cause of action. The women, he claimed, had to show in their suit the legal injury they had suffered from the existence of the mosque.

"Again, the Commission was still conducting its inspection on May 16 when the application was suddenly filed in the trial court about the finding of the *Shivling*... The trial court, within an hour of the women's application and without even waiting for the Commission report, ordered the premises to be sealed. The order does not show an element of fairness," Mr. Ahamadi said.

The senior lawyer reminisced how the Allahabad High Court, on April 21, had dismissed their petition to stay the trial judge's orders, saying they were "innocuous" by nature. "Look what the orders have led to... The High Court has been proved substantially wrong," Mr. Ahamadi said.

The court issued notice to the plaintiffs (the Hindu women who filed the suit). Their lawyer, advocate Hari Shankar Jain, could not appear in the top court as he had taken ill. The Bench scheduled the next hearing for May 19.

Top officials urge Pandits to stay put

IGP says leaving the Valley out of fear will be akin to playing into the hands of Pakistan and militants

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Top J&K officials, including Divisional Commissioner of Kashmir P.K. Pole and Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar, on Tuesday visited several transit camps of Kashmiri Pandits and advised the fear-struck community against migration from the Valley, in the wake of the killing of the Pandit employee Rahul Bhat on May 12.

Interacting with protesting Pandits at the Sheikhpora transit camp in Budgam, Mr. Vijay Kumar said, "If you [Pandits] fear, this is what Pakistan wants. You will play into the hands of Pakistan and militants, if you fear. They too want you to migrate [from the Valley]."

He promised additional measures to provide security to the Pandits staying in the Valley, and maintained that militancy was on its last legs.

"There is a lot of flickering when a candle is about to extinguish. It's true of militancy too in Kashmir. Within one year, fear will be completely eliminated and the militant numbers will be reduced to fewer than 50," he said.

Kashmiri Pandits interact with security personnel outside their transit camp at Sheikhpora on May 14. • PTI

He interacted with Pandits living at the transit camps in Kulgam and Anantnag and pacified the protesting community members.

During his visit to the Vessu camp in Kulgam, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir P.K. Pole promised to address services-related issues within a week's time.

The administration is working on fresh postings for Pandits to the district headquarters following the recent attack, which sparked Valley-wide protests from the fear-stricken community.

Changing targets

"Militants have lost their strength to target big security installations. They are now attacking soft targets, including unarmed policemen who visit homes on leave. These killings are meant to create a fear psychosis among the minorities. I can tell you that the security environment in Kashmir is not what it was some 10 years ago," Mr. Pole said.

However, Kashmiri Pandits are not budging on their demands on relocation to safe destinations and dropping of clauses in the Prime Minister Rehabilitation Package that bar employees' transfer outside the Valley.

"We demand employees should be relocated to the Jammu division till the situation improves in the Valley. The clauses on barring transfers under the Prime Minister's Rehabilitation Package should be declared void *ab initio*," the Pandits said, both in Sheikhpora and Vessu camps.

In the wake of a spree of killings of Hindus and non-labourers by militants in October and September last year, Pandit employees alleged they were not allowed to leave their stations and were forced to resume duties despite a threat to their lives.

Farmers in Punjab warn of protests

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MOHALI

Annoyed over the alleged indifference of the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government towards their plight, several farmer groups announced they would stage an overnight sit-in [*dharna*] on Tuesday at the Mohali-Chandigarh border.

Farmers from across the State were prevented from entering Chandigarh, as they had planned a *pucca morcha* [permanent protest] and were unwilling to relent until their demands were met.

The farmers are demanding compensation to the tune of ₹500 per quintal for low wheat yields this season, and an immediate rollback of the government's decision to delay paddy transplantation by dividing the State into different zones.

Meet takes stock of Yatra facilities

Ensure more mobile towers, oxygen cylinders, medical beds *en route*, says Shah

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed the Amarnath Yatra security arrangements in a series of meetings with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha and other senior officials of the Ministry on Tuesday.

The yatra to the cave shrine in south Kashmir commences on June 30 and concludes on August 11.

J&K Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta said that for the first time, every Amarnath Yatra pilgrim would be given a radio frequency identification (RFID) card and would be insured for ₹5 lakh.

Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Director of Intelligence Bureau Arvinda Kumar and other senior officials of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) attended the meeting.

Amit Shah during a meeting on the arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra, in New Delhi on Tuesday. • PTI

A statement by the Ministry of Home Affairs said Mr. Shah held a long meeting regarding the safety of the yatra and the facilities required for the pilgrims. National Security Adviser Ajit Doval also participated in the meeting. There were three meetings in all, which continued for five hours.

Mr. Shah directed that arrangements be made for all essential facilities, including lodging, electricity, water, communication and health of the Amarnath yatris.

Adequate preparation

He said that this was the first journey after the COVID-19 pandemic and in case the yatris had any health-related problems due to the high altitude, adequate arrangements would have to be made, said the statement.

The Minister said the number of mobile towers should be increased on the yatra route for better communication and dissemination of information. Necessary equipment should be deployed to open the route immediately in case of landslips, he said.

He also asked the authorities to ensure adequate number of oxygen cylinders and medical beds at altitudes above 6,000 feet. Ambulances and helicopters should be available to deal with any emergency situation. All types of transport services should be increased for the convenience of the pilgrims.

A tent city, WiFi hotspots and proper lighting would be arranged on the yatra route, the Ministry said.

The J&K administration and the police have been asked to brace for around eight lakh pilgrims for the yatra, which is being organised after a gap of two years.

CBI books Karti in visa scam case

For this purpose, the company's representative Vikas Makharia, allegedly approached Mr. Karti's close associate Mr. Raman and then submitted a request letter dated July 30, 2011, to the MHA (Foreigners Division) seeking permission to re-use project visas issued to the company. A few days later, he sent a copy of the letter to Mr. Raman by e-mail which the latter forwarded to Mr. Karti.

The CBI's Investigation Officer in his report, which is part of the First Information Report, claimed that Mr. Raman, after discussion with the then Home Minister, demanded an illegal gratification of ₹50 lakh for ensuring the necessary approval.

On August 30, 2011, the company was granted permission letter for re-use of 263 project visas and the alleged bribe of ₹50 lakh was paid in cash to Mr. Raman. There were constant email communication between Mr. Makharia, Mr. Raman and Mr. Karti. Mr. Makharia also sent an email to Mr. Karti attaching a copy of the permission letter and thanked him.

The CBI said project visas were introduced in October 2010 as a new type of visa for power and steel sectors only. Detailed guidelines were issued in a circular with the approval of Mr. Chidambaram, the then Home Minister. It was made clear in the circular that there was no provision for re-use of project visas. However, deviation in rare and exceptional cases could be considered and granted only with the approval of the Home Secretary.

The FIR noted that in view of the above circumstances, the deviation in terms of re-use of project visas was likely to have been approved by the then Home Minister, Government of India. "There is reason to believe that the then Home Secretary and Home Minister were in the knowledge of the matter of M/s TSPL, and work of M/s TSPL was done through them but it is not ascertained at this stage whether P. Chidambaram, the then Home Minister, and the then Home Secretary were in the knowledge of the demand and payment of illegal gratification or not," the FIR said.

Citing a past case, the investigative agency said Mr. Chidambaram was on the board of Vedanta Group whereas his son had taken financial favour from Sterlite Optical Technologies Ltd, Mumbai, (a Vedanta Group company) which lent ₹1.5 crore in November 2003 to his company in Chennai and the interest thereupon was waived the next year when Mr. Chidambaram was sworn in as the Union Finance Minister.

The agency also alleged that Mr. Karti and Mr. Raman had indulged in collection of undue payments for settling the issues pending with the offices in various Ministries, under the influence of Mr. Chidambaram.

The CBI operation comes at a time when Mr. Chidambaram's tenure comes to an end in the Rajya Sabha and he is believed to be a frontrunner to be re-nominated to the Upper House from Tamil Nadu where the ruling DMK has allotted one seat to the Congress, its alliance partner.

It is Navy's primary objective to keep Indo-Pacific safe: Rajnath

He launches frontline warships *Surat* and *Udaygiri*

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Indo-Pacific region is important for the economy of the whole world, and India being a responsible maritime stakeholder in the region, it is the primary objective of our Navy to keep the Indo-Pacific open, safe and secure, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday, noting that global security, border disputes and maritime dominance have led nations around the world to modernise their militaries.

"If a country wants to safeguard its national interests, it should project its military prowess in areas far beyond the mainland. If a country has aspirations to become a regional or global power, it is necessary to develop a strong Naval force. Government is making all efforts in this direction. We want to make a strong, secure and prosperous India, which is recognised as a global power," said Mr. Singh.

Warship *Udaygiri* launched by Rajnath Singh at Mazgaon Dockyard. • EMMANUAL YOGINI

He was speaking at the launch of two frontline warships at Mazagon Docks Limited (MDL) in Mumbai – *Surat*, the fourth and last ship of Project-15B destroyers, and *Udaygiri*, the third ship of Project-17A stealth frigates.

"*Udaygiri* and *Surat* are the shining examples of India's growing indigenous capability. The warships will be among the most technologically advanced missile carriers in the world, that will cater to the present as well as future requirements. In the times to come, we will not only fulfil our own needs, but will also meet the shipbuilding requirements of the world. We will soon realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Make in India, Make for the World'," Mr. Singh said.

"We support consensus-based principles and peaceful, open, rule-based and stable maritime order."

Mr. Singh stated that the ever-evolving security scenario in the Indian Ocean and the Indo-Pacific region would demand an even more important role for the Indian Navy in the times to come and called for devising policies that focus on bolstering the country's presence in the region, its role during disasters, economic well-being and carrying forward foreign policy.

G-7 likely to increase pressure to reverse wheat export ban

India to participate in high-level meeting on food security

SUHASINI HAIDAR
KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Members of the G-7 countries are expected to appeal to India to reverse the ban on wheat exports during the upcoming G-7 summit (June 26-28) in Germany which is likely to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The information about the G-7's stance towards the ban of wheat exports came as India sent Minister of State for External Affairs V. Muralidharan to participate in a high-level ministerial meeting in New York on "Global food security - call to action". Sources have told *The Hindu* that as the future G-20 chair, India has important responsibilities to ensure food security, especially in the backdrop of the Ukraine crisis that has disrupted global agriculture supply network.

The issue of India's wheat export ban is likely to dominate at the global food security meeting which will be hosted by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Wednesday at the UN.

Sacks of wheat at APMC Wholesale Market in Ahmedabad. • VIJAY SONEJI

The mood at the UN Security Council was conveyed by the U.S. envoy to the UN Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield who said the U.S. is asking other countries to avoid stopping wheat exports and added, "India will be one of the countries participating in our meeting at the Security Council, and we hope that they can, as they hear the concerns being raised by other countries, that they would reconsider that position".

The consultation between India and the G-7 countries will continue in the run-up to the summit in Germany. Dammu Ravi, Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, will participate in the G-7 development ministers meeting on Wednesday in Berlin where the issue of food security is expected to dominate. The meeting is likely to produce a proposal, but India may not endorse the document. The hint of the coming pressure from the G-7 was felt by the Indian side during the recently concluded Prime Ministerial visit to Germany, Denmark and France when the talks with the counterparts were "dominated" by the Ukraine crisis.

Perarivalan pardon: SC to give verdict today

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday is scheduled to give its verdict on whether the Tamil Nadu Governor was right in referring Rajiv Gandhi assassination case convict A.G. Perarivalan's plea for pardon to the President without taking a decision.

Very early in the case, a Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao gave the Centre a choice between allowing Perarivalan, who has served over 30 years of his life sentence, to be released or argue the case and get a judgment on merits. The Centre had chosen the latter.

Under Article 161 of the Constitution, the Governor is bound by the advice given by the Tamil Nadu Council of Ministers to the Governor to release Perarivalan. The court, during arguments, had orally observed that the Governor *prima facie* had no authority to transfer the mercy plea to the President.

ATS arrests Mumbai blasts case accused

Officials say they worked for Mohammed Dossa, a henchman of Dawood Ibrahim

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Gujarat's Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) arrested four accused in cases related to the 1993 Mumbai blasts.

Abu Bakar, Yusuf Bhatkal, Shoeb Baba and Sayyed Kureshi had been at large since the blasts in the country's financial capital, in which over 250 persons were killed.

According to sources, these persons were close to underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, who is believed to be the mastermind behind the serial blasts. They were arrested from Sardarnagar area of Ahmedabad on May 12 following a tip-off, said Additional Director General of Police, ATS, Amit Vishwakarma.

The ATS has booked them for obtaining passports on the basis of forged documents for fleeing the country in 1993. Upon completion of their remand in the forgery case, the agency will hand over their custody to the CBI that is probing the blasts case.

"Interpol had issued a Red-Corner Notice against them on the request of the CBI," Mr. Vishwakarma told reporters on Tuesday.

When exactly they came back to India and what they were doing in Ahmedabad in Gujarat were being investigated, ATS officials said.

According to the details shared by ATS officials, the four used to work for gold smuggler Mohammed Dossa, a henchman of fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim in the 1990s.

"To spread terror in India, Dossa sent them to a country in the Middle East to meet Dawood Ibrahim in February 1993. On Dawood's directions, they went to Pakistan to get weapons training. Pakistan's spy agency ISI also gave them training in the making and use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)," said ATS DIG Deepan Bhadran.

IN BRIEF

'Send sweets to RSS chief, but keep a watch'

KOLKATA

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday told officials at an administrative meeting to send sweets to Rashtriya Swayamsek Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat who will likely visit the State's Jangalmahal region this week. "Why is RSS Chief visiting Keshiary from 17-20 [May]? Send sweets and fruits from the administration. So that they realise that we take good care of guests," the Chief Minister told police officials. She also urged the police to provide good protection so that there are "no riots".

Search at Anish Khan's house illegal: W.B. govt.

KOLKATA

The West Bengal government on Tuesday told the Calcutta High Court that the search at student leader Anish Khan's home was illegal. Advocate-General S.N. Mookherjee told Justice Rajasekhar Mantha, who is hearing a petition demanding a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the mysterious death of the student leader, said that the police search was "unauthorised" and they should be punished for it. During the proceedings in the court, Justice Mantha asked what was the ground for bringing charges under Section 304(A) and not under Section 302.

Deadline extended for Noida towers demolition

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday extended the deadline for the demolition of Supertech's twin 40-storey towers in its Emerald project at Noida until August 28, 2022. The towers had violated norms and were found illegal. However, on Wednesday, a Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud found that expert opinion was against demolishing the buildings by May 22. *Amicus curiae* advocate Gaurav Agrawal seconded this.

Advocate commissioner sacked for leaking survey information

Varanasi court gives remaining commissioners two more days to file report

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

A Varanasi court on Tuesday removed advocate commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra from the video inspection commission of the Gyanvapi mosque for leaking information to the media through a private cameraman. It also granted the two remaining court commissioners two more days to submit a report on the videography of the mosque premises and the Shringar Gauri Sthal outside its western wall.

The court said the commission would function under special advocate commissioner Vishal Singh. Assistant advocate commissioner Ajay Pratap Singh would work under his direction.

Mr. Vishal had submitted an application in court stating that Mr. Mishra and Mr. Ajay were not cooperating with him and showing little interest in the commission work. He told the court that Mr. Mishra had deputed a private cameraperson, R.P. Singh, who was constantly giving "wrong bites" to the media. It was for this reason that Mr. Mishra was kept out of the commission work on Monday, Mr. Vishal said.

Court commissioners and their team outside the Gyanvapi mosque complex in Varanasi on Monday. • PTI

'Irresponsible conduct'

After questioning the three advocate commissioners, Ravi Kumar Diwakar, civil judge, senior division, noted that Mr. Mishra had conducted himself in an "extremely irresponsible" manner. "When any advocate is appointed as an advocate commissioner and does commission work, then he is as good as a public servant. And it is expected that he will conduct the commission proceedings with total neutrality and honesty, and will not issue any irresponsible statements in public," the judge said. The Anjuman Intezamia Masajid, the caretakers of the Gyanvapi mosque, had on the first day of the commission's videography survey on May 6 accused Mr. Mishra of being "biased" and sought his removal.

However, the court rejected the plea and appointed two other advocate commissioners along with Mr. Mishra.

The judge on Tuesday granted Mr. Vishal more time to file a report.

Mr. Vishal had submitted that as the disputed area was large and the commission wanted to focus on all points, they would need at least two more days.

The original deadline was Tuesday.

Judge Diwakar also invited objections on separate applications filed by three of the five Hindu plaintiffs and the district government counsel (civil).

Places of Worship Act does not apply to Gyanvapi: VHP

'No change in the status of the religious structure since 1947'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad on Tuesday claimed that the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, which mandates that the character of all religious places of worship should be maintained as it was on August 15, 1947, did not apply to the Gyanvapi mosque dispute in Varanasi.

The Hindu right-wing outfit claimed that there has been no change in the status of the religious structure since 1947 and that Hindus had always performed puja at the site. VHP international working president Alok Kumar said that the site where the *Shivling* was allegedly found was a temple and had been so even in 1947. He referred to it as the Gyanvapi Mandir.

He hoped that all citizens of the country would acknowledge and honour the "evidence" and the country would move towards its "natural culmination."

The mosque is located close to the Kashi Vishwanath temple. • PTI

VHP national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said the Act did not hinder the outfit's view that the site where petitioners claimed a *Shivling* was found was in essence a temple.

"We clearly believe that the status of the mandir never changed. It is a different matter that sometimes puja was regular and at other times it was official," said Mr. Bansal.

"We believe that it was a mandir in 1947 as puja was done then. And today there should be puja... and it is being done," he said.

Mr. Bansal said the 1991 Act applied only to those structures whose status one wanted to change. "You want to make something else after breaking a structure.... it [the Act] might impact that. But we were doing puja in 1947 and are still doing it today," he said.

BJP MLA Siddharth Nath Singh asked the Congress to explain why it had brought the Places of Worship Act. "Wasn't it to please a section of minorities at the peak of the Babri dispute, and why accept cut-off date of 1947 determined by a colonial power? Time for Congress to answer," Mr. Singh tweeted.

'Qutb Minar was built after razing temples'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Minister of State Prahlad Singh Patel on Tuesday said the maker of Qutb Minar had left an inscription which said that it was built after demolishing 27 temples. Such a structure would not have remained standing in any other country but India, he said.

Mr. Patel, who holds the Jal Shakti and Food Processing portfolios, said in a tweet that when he was Culture Minister (from 2019 to 2021), he had asked the Archaeological Survey of India to put up Hindi and English translations of the inscription claiming that the monument was built after demolishing 27 Hindu and Jain temples. This, he said, was done so that "people could find out the truth".

Mr. Patel's tweet comes after a petition was filed in a Delhi court seeking the "restoration" of temples at Qutb Minar complex.

India rejects Pak. 'farcical resolution' on delimitation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India on Tuesday described as "farcical" a resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on the delimitation exercise in Jammu and Kashmir, saying the neighbouring country had no locus standi to interfere in internal matters of India.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi categorically rejected the resolution and asked Islamabad to stop cross-border terrorism and shut down its "infrastructure of terrorism".

"We categorically reject the farcical resolution passed by the National Assembly of Pakistan on the subject of the delimitation exercise in the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"Pakistan has no locus standi to pronounce on or interfere in matters that are internal to India, including the Indian territories under Pakistan's illegal and forcible occupation," Mr. Bagchi added.

"It is regrettable that instead of putting their own house in order, the leadership in Pakistan continues to interfere in India's internal affairs and engage in baseless and provocative anti-India propaganda," he said.

Mr. Bagchi asked Pakistan to refrain from effecting any further material changes in the status of Pakistan-occupied Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh (PoJKL) and vacate the Indian territories that are under its "illegal and forcible occupation".

BJP is trying to 'break' India: Congress

Party to deploy 6,500 representatives under newly proposed poll management department

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

The Congress is gearing up to take on the BJP with a completely reworked election management architecture, even as it accused the BJP of trying to "break" India with its divisive politics for the sake of votes.

On Tuesday, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, K.C. Venugopal, Randeep Surjewala, Ajay Maken and Tariq Anwar were among the leaders who met at the All India Congress Committee headquarters to discuss an action plan that will give shape to the host of structural changes announced at the *Nav Sankalp Chintan Shivir* in Udaipur.

These leaders will meet again on Wednesday to chart out the course of organisational reforms. Among them is the creation of a separate election management department.

Under the new architecture, the party will deploy 6,500 election representatives across all the Lok Sabha and Assembly seats for a detailed profiling of the constituencies, and to identify issues that resonate with the people.

The election management wing will work closely with the proposed public insight department that will gather public feedback on crucial political issues, and an integrated communication wing that will combine the social media wing and research departments with the traditional media department.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra

A source cited how such a system would have helped the party during the recent Punjab Assembly election. "During the 2017 election, Captain Amarinder Singh and poll strategist Prashant Kishor had promised jobs or unemployment allowance. Employment was the biggest issue for the voters, but after Charanjit Singh Channi took over as Chief Minister, we nearly spent ₹15,000 crore in subsidising electricity. If we had spent the same amount on unemployment allowance, things may have been different."

Another issue that dominated the discussions at the *Shivir* was that of the growing communal divide and the party's position towards Hindutva.

"When you break the unity of people, the threat of India breaking becomes more real. We urge the BJP to have a relook at the way they are governing the country and dividing people," Mr. Maken said at a press conference. "Kindly don't divide people as it takes generations to unite people.".

Dharma Sansad case: Tyagi gets interim bail for 3 months

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted three months of interim bail to Jitendra Narayan Tyagi on medical grounds in connection with the Haridwar dharma sansad case involving alleged inflammatory speeches made against Muslims.

Undertaking against hate speech

A Bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Vikram Nath directed Mr. Tyagi, formerly known as Wasim Rizvi, to give an undertaking that he would not indulge in hate speech and not give any statement on electronic or digital, or social media.

"After hearing the learned counsel for the parties and taking into consideration the medical condition of the petitioner, we consider it appropriate to grant him interim bail on furnishing an undertaking that he will not address the electronic media or social media and will not indulge in such activities anymore... On furnishing undertaking and the terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Trial Court, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail for the period of three months," the Bench ordered.

Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Ltd.
(A Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
KSMC
Regd. Office: 5th Floor, TTMC 'A' Block, BMTC Building, K.H.Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027. Phone: 080-22278813/14/15/16
Fax: 080-22213172 Website: www.ksmc.karnataka.gov.in

No:KSMCL/PROD/Explosives/e-Tender/1066/2022-23/486 Date:16.05.2022
No:KSMCL/S&S/AN/e-Tender/342-V/TICM/2022-23/487 Date:16.05.2022

SHORT TERM e-TENDER INVITATION

KSMCL invites Short term e-Tender for Selection of Agency for supply of Explosives and Ammonium Nitrate for Mines / Quarries.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1.	Last date and time for Uploading of e-Tender.	26.05.2022 upto 5.00 PM
2.	Technical Bid Opening	30.05.2022 at 11.00 AM
3.	Earnest Money Deposit	Refer e-tender Document

Tender document can be downloaded from e-procurement website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in Contact e-procurement helpdesk No. 080-46010000, 68948777, e-mail : support@eprochelpdesk.com for any support in uploading and registration.

Sd/-
General Manager (P)
DIPR/CP/JAGADALE ADVERTISING/536/2022-23

V.O. CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY
CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
TUTICORIN-628 004
Website: www.vocport.gov.in
SAGARMALA

No: E(C)/ F.59/PD/Outer Harbour / 50298/2022/D.1394 Date:17.05.2022

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
DEVELOPMENT OF OUTER HARBOUR THROUGH PPP MODE AT V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT ON DESIGN, BUILD, FINANCE, OPERATE AND TRANSFER (DBFOT) BASIS

VOC Port proposes to develop Outer Harbour with two no's of container terminals of 1000 m quay length each through PPP mode. The Outer Harbour development majorly involves construction of breakwater, capital dredging in the Outer Harbour basin and approach channel,construction of Rubble bund for reclamation of dredged materials for creation of backup yard, berth / jetty construction, mechanization in the berth & stack yard,railway line laying, navigational aids etc.,

As per proposal, the Concessionaire shall have to carry out the construction of breakwater in the Northern side (3450m length approx.) and Southern side (2050m length approx.), Capital dredging alongside the berth and Outer Harbour basin to (-)16.9m and approach channel to (-)17.4m to handle 16m draught vessels (approx. dredging quantity = 11.30 M.Cu.m) in a phased manner. Further, the Concessionaire will be required to construct 2 no's of Berths of 1000m quay length each and mechanize the berths to handle the container cargoes. Works to be executed by the concessionaire also include backup yard development and any other works for successful completion and operation of the terminal so as to create ultimate capacity to handle container cargo of a minimum volume of 4 MTEU's.

In this regard, VOC Port Authority invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from the interested Container Terminal operators having experience in Construction and / or operation experience in Port sector/Core sector for Development of Outer Harbour through PPP mode at V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority on Design, Build, Finance, Operate And Transfer (DBFOT) basis.

Interested operators may visit EOI at Port's website www.vocport.gov.in or contact Shri. K.Ravikumar, Chief Engineer, email: ce@vocport.gov.in, phone: 94433 89512 with details of your requirements.

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Electrical (General), Construction, Chennai Egmore

Tender Notice No. E-HQ-CN-MS-EOT-01-2022-23 dated 13/05/2022.

For and on behalf of the President of India, The Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/General/Construction, Southern Railway / Egmore, Chennai-600008 invites E-Tender for the following Work.

Name of Work : Perambur New Railway Hospital - Phase - II - Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of Centralized Air - Conditioning System for D Block, Commissioning of 14 Nos. of Major Operation Theatres and Provision of UV Filters in AHUs /AC Ducts - Reg

Tender Notice No. and Date: E-HQ-CN-MS-EOT -01-2022-23 Dt: 13/05/2022.

Period of Completion: 6 Months.

Approximate Cost of Work : ₹.5,67,09,037.90 (Rounded to ₹.5,67,09,368/-)

Cost of Tender form: Nil.

Earnest Money Deposited (EMD): ₹.4,33,600/-

Tender Closing Date & Time: 06/06/2022 at 11.00AM.

Tender Opening Date & Time : 06/06/2022 at 11.30 am

Complete details can be seen on www.ireps.gov.in.

Dy.Chief Elec. Engineer/ Gen./Cons./S.Rly, Egmore, Chennai - 8

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

KSITIL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of Work: Upgrading Kerala University into Centre of excellence in Academics & Research: - Infrastructure works at Kariyavattom Campus, Thiruvananthapuram.

Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL) invites e-Tenders under two cover bid system (Bid I : Prequalification & Techno Commercial bid and Bid II: Price Bid) from eligible contractors.

Estimate Amount : Rs. 46,13,26,749/- excluding GST
Earnest Money Deposit : Rs.5,00,000/-
Period of Completion : 20 months
Due Date of Submission : 09/06/2022, 15:00 Hrs.

Tender documents and tender schedule may be downloaded from the e-GP website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Funded by Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB)
(A Statutory Body Under Finance Department, Govt of Kerala)

Date:18/05/2022 Managing Director
Trivandrum Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited

LOOK OUT NOTICE

The person in the picture, Baby, S/o Augustine, Pallipparampil, Edekkunnam Desom, Cheranalloor Village, Paravoor Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala, is the 2nd accused to be arrested in narcotic case registered in the Excise Range Office, Varappuzha as NDPS CR 25/2021 U/s 20(b)(ii)(C), 25 & 29 of NDPS Act 1985 which is investigated by the Assistant Excise Commissioner (Enforcement). Information if any about him may be informed to the nearest Excise Office or to the following Excise Officials.

Assistant Excise Commissioner (Enforcement)
Mobile: 9496002867, 9447840201
(01079/F2/2022/I&PRD)

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan
Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-07/2333/2022-23 Date: 16.05.2022

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the works mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding Class-I (Civil) Contractors registered in KPWD, Government of Karnataka who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work of Improvements of Road, Culvert & Storm Water Drains at Vemgal Industrial Areas, Kolar District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : 27.05.2022 upto 04:00 pm

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER-1
KIADB
DIPR/CP/537/AKAR/22-23

COVID-19 - DON'T SPREAD RUMOURS. ACT RESPONSIBLY, AVOID INFECTION-NOT THE INFECTED.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Social Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender NOTIFICATION Ref. ITCELL 5/57354/2022/Digitisation Dated: 10.05.2022

Director of Agriculture, Chennai invites sealed Tenders in two cover system from the reputed entities for the following items under the Scheme National e-Governance Plan - Agriculture (Digital Agriculture)

Sl. No.	Name of the Item	Approximate Value in Rs.	Earnest Money Deposit to be paid in Rs.
1	Geo tagging of Land parcels and linking them with Unique Farmer Database.	3,63,57,600/-	7,27,000

Separate sealed tender (**Technical Bid & Price Bid Cover**) should be submitted separately for the work mentioned above along with specified EMD. The time schedule for opening of the tender is as follows:

I.	Downloading of tender document closes on	16/06/2022 upto 5.00 p.m.
II.	Last date and time for receipt of tender	17/06/2022 upto 4.00 p.m.
III.	Date and time of opening of tender	20/06/2022, 3.00 p.m.

Tender document can be downloaded at free of cost in Government Website: www.tenders.tn.gov.in
For Further particular Contact: Computer Section, Office of the Director of Agriculture, Chepauk, Chennai-600 005.
044 – 28553323, (Extn.:179), email: diragri@tn.nic.in
Director of Agriculture
DIPR/2334/Tender/2022

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT,
Superintending Engineer (H)
Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Circle, Saidapet, Chennai - 15

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No: 01/2022-23/CMDP/DO/dated:16.05.2022
(Online only)

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Item Rate Tender** under **Two Cover System, through online only** for **Division – II** work of '**Construction of Grade Separator at the junction of Rajiv Gandhi Salai with Sardar Patel Road at Madhya Kailash**' will be received upto **21.06.2022, 15.00 hours** by the Superintending Engineer (H), Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Circle, Saidapet, Chennai-15.

Detailed scope of work, approximate value, EMD, availability of tender document and all other details are available from **20.05.2022** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in**. If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer(H)
CMDP Circle,
Saidapet, Chennai-15.
DIPR/2325/Tender/2022

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED,
19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI - 600 008.
CIN U74999TN1971SGC005967

TENDER NOTICE

NIT.No.07/CW/T.No.07/2022-23 Dt.17.05.2022

For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, sealed tenders are invited under **"Two Cover System"** for the following work from **Class–I** State level Civil Contractors registered in PWD/Highways/Any Department of Government of Tamilnadu, Central Government Department, Tamilnadu State Government undertaking having experience in similar nature of works. Tenders will be received upto **3.00 PM** on **21.06.2022** and the same will be opened on the same day at **3.30 PM.**

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Providing Approach Road (External) to International Furniture Park in SIPCOT Industrial Park, Thoothukudi (Ch: Km 0+000 to 0+610)	Rs.1696.00 Lakhs (including GST @18%)	Rs.8,58,000/-*

* In the form of Demand Draft drawn in favour of SIPCOT Ltd., payable at Chennai. (In the tenderer's Name/Firm only)

The tender Schedule can be Downloaded at free of cost from the website **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

DIPR/2340/TENDER/2022 MANAGING DIRECTOR

Fill vacancies in quota for disabled: court

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

Acting on a complaint by a visiting faculty member, the Court of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) has recently recommended that the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) fill its teaching vacancies and reserve 4% of posts for persons with disabilities.

Petitioner Vijay Garg, an alumnus of SPA and a visiting faculty member since 2005, had alleged that despite advertising Group A teaching posts many times, no PwD candidate was appointed by the SPA since 2008. Mr. Garg, who is a person with 40% locomotor disability, said he had been selected and interviewed for vacancies over the years but never appointed. "To keep posts vacant is a retrograde step. Respondent must make all efforts to fill the advertised vacancies," the order said.

Mr. Garg told *The Hindu* that the institute had filled one "relatively junior post" after he moved the court.

Changes to biodiversity law will weaken it: Jairam Ramesh

Parliamentary panel member flags exemption given to AYUSH practitioners

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has expressed concern over the Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021, which is in the final stages of consultations in the Joint Parliamentary Committee. He questioned the exemption given to AYUSH practitioners from the provisions of the law.

Mr. Ramesh, who is a member of the committee, in a letter addressed to other members and committee chairperson and BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal, said that this exemption could open the law for abuse. The law was introduced in Parliament on December 16 last year by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, and was referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on December 20. The Bill amends the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 to simplify compliance requirements for domestic companies.

The Biodiversity Bill makes a distinction between cultivated medicinal plants and forest-based plants. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Flagging the presentation made by the Environment Ministry last month before the committee, Mr. Ramesh said, "The Ministry is drawing a distinction between a registered AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy) practitioner and a company, and exempting the former from the Act. This is an artificial distinction since the registered AYUSH practitioner may well be having informal links with a collective [family or otherwise], which may or may not have a company structure. This may well open doors for large-scale exemptions."

The government brought in the amended Bill because of the push from many AYUSH companies. In 2016, the Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board sent a notice to Divya Pharmacy run by Swami Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna, stating that it violated the Biodiversity Act for using biological resources from the State for its ayurvedic formulations, without intimating the Board and that it was liable to pay an access and benefit-sharing fee. The company had unsuccessfully challenged the Board's notice.

Mr. Ramesh also sounded an alarm on the distinction made in the law between cultivated biodiversity and forest-based biodiversity.

"It is not at all clear what the basis for this distinction will be and whether it can be sustained in practice," he added. Multiple provisions of the Bill, he said, are aimed at diluting the authority of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA).

The appointment of 16 ex-officio officers of the Government of India is one such, Mr. Ramesh said.

"The Ministry says NBA approval is required only at the time of commercialisation of a patent and not at the time of application for a patent. This is something that has very far-reaching implications and I can tell you that what will happen is that NBA approval at the time of commercialisation will be reduced to a formality and will become a *fait accompli*," he wrote.

'1 in 6 global deaths in 2019 linked to pollution'

Lancet panel studies impact on health

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

Pollution caused nearly nine million deaths in 2019, or about one in six deaths worldwide. This number has remained effectively unchanged since the previous such analysis in 2015 by the Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health, says a report published in *The Lancet Planetary Health* on Wednesday.

Air pollution caused 6.67 million deaths globally in 2019, says report.

Though the number of deaths from pollution sources associated with extreme poverty (such as indoor air pollution and water pollution) fell, these reductions are offset by increased deaths attributable to industrial pollution (such as ambient air pollution and chemical pollution).

A report by *The Lancet* in 2019 said that noxious air killed 1.67 million Indians in 2019, or 18% of all fatalities.

"The health impacts of pollution remain enormous, and low- and middle-income countries bear the brunt of this burden. Despite its enormous health, social and economic impacts, pollution prevention is largely overlooked in the international development agenda," Richard Fuller, lead author, said in a statement.

The authors of the study conclude with eight recommendations that build on those given in the Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health. These include call for an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-style science/policy panel on pollution, alongside increased funding for pollution control from governments and donors, and improved pollution monitoring and data collection.

Mame Khan to perform at Cannes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Dressed in traditional attire, a 11-member Indian delegation – led by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur – on Tuesday walked the red carpet at the inauguration of the Cannes Film Festival in France, where India has been named as the 'country of honour' at the Marche du Film, the business counterpart of the marquee event.

Mame Khan, a traditional Manganiyar singer from Rajasthan, became the first folk artiste to open the red carpet event for the Indian contingent. He will also perform at the festival.

Mr. Thakur, along with music maestro A.R. Rahman, composer Ricky Kej, lyricist and poet Prasoon Joshi, and veteran director Shekhar Kapur, attended the screening of opening film *Coupez* (Final Cut) by French director Michel Hazanavicius. Actors R. Madhavan, Tamannah Bhatia and Pooja Hegde were part of the delegation too.

Three of tribal family murdered in M.P.

SHUBHOMOY SIKDAR
MANDLA

In what is suspected to be an act fuelled by both revenge and superstition, three members of a tribal family were murdered here in the early hours of Tuesday.

The victims include a 13-year-old girl, and an elderly woman whose head was severed and tied to a tree nearly a kilometre away.

The victims – Narbad Varkade (62), his wife Sukarti Bai (59) and Mahima (13) – had been sleeping on the terrace of their house in Pathadei village, nearly 50 kilometres from the district headquarters in Mandla. In the morning, family members saw the bodies with throats slit and raised an alarm. Sukarti Bai's head was missing and it was later found tied to a tree.

Local MLA Ashok Marskole reached the house of the victims and blamed the police for failing to provide security to the people.

Former Chief Minister and Congress Rajya Sabha MP Digvijaya Singh also raised questions about the law and order situation in Madhya Pradesh, and alleged that tribal people were being targeted.

Mandla Superintendent of Police Yashpal Singh Rajput did not disclose the names of the suspects.

'Prepare for multi-domain challenges'

Venkaiah Naidu says hybrid nature of conflicts marks paradigm shift in defence

STAFF REPORTER
UDHAGAMANDALAM

The hybrid nature of conflicts with the increasing use of drones and cyber warfare has brought a paradigm shift to the battlefield which has spurred the Indian military into developing into a "future force", Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu said on Tuesday.

Addressing the officers and staff of Defence Services Staff College in Wellington, Tamil Nadu, on Tuesday, Mr. Naidu said that "India is facing multiple security challenges in a highly complex and unpredictable geopolitical environment."

Venkaiah Naidu

"Observing that India's approach has always been one of peaceful coexistence and never an expansionist one, the Vice-President expressed confidence that any attempt to challenge India's sovereignty by inimical forces would be dealt with strongly by our security forces," a press statement said.

"India has never invaded other countries and we have always has always maintained peaceful coexistence with other nations. We believe in the value of *Vasudeva Kutumbakam*," Mr. Naidu said.

Security matrix

He said that geostrategic and geopolitical compulsions, terrorism and climate change have added to the complexity of the security matrix and called for a deeper understanding of such issues.

Emphasising the need for self-reliance in defence and aerospace technology, the Vice-President appreciated the government for taking several initiatives towards this goal. "As we step into the future, you will have to graduate from single-service competencies to multi-domain challenges which require a thorough understanding of joint and multi-domain operations," he told the officers.

Stressing the need to make people more aware of the dedication and sacrifices of soldiers, Mr. Naidu called for creating monuments to such heroes in educational institutions, the press release said.

5 judges to be elevated as Chief Justices of HCs

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana has recommended the elevation of five judges as the Chief Justices of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gauhati, and Telangana High Courts.

The Collegium, in a separate resolution, also recommended the transfer of Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, Chief Justice of Telangana High Court, to the Delhi High Court. Justice Sharma, whose parent High Court is Madhya Pradesh, will have tenure till November 2023.

The Collegium recommended the elevation of Delhi High Court judge Justice Vipin Sanghi as Chief Justice of Uttarakhand. It recommended the elevation of two judges from Bombay High Court – Justices Amjad A. Sayed and S.S. Shinde – as Himachal Pradesh Chief Justice, and Rajasthan Chief Justice, respectively.

The Collegium recommended the elevation of Gujarat High Court judge Rashmin M. Chhaya as Gauhati Chief Justice. Telangana High Court judge Ujjal Bhuyan has been recommended as Chief Justice of the same High Court. Justice Bhuyan's parent High Court is Gauhati.

Marital rape: petition filed in SC appealing HC's split verdict

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A petition was filed in the Supreme Court appealing the Delhi High Court's split verdict in the marital rape case.

The judges of the High court had differed in the cardinal issue whether men can face the charge of rape for forcing themselves on their wives.

The case primarily deals with bodily autonomy, privacy and the right to dignity in marriage.

Though split in their opinions on the subject, Justice Rajiv Shakdher and Justice C. Hari Shankar had allowed the petitioners to move the top court for an authoritative view on the issue.

While Justice Shakdher, who headed the High Court Bench, favoured striking down the marital rape exception for being "unconstitutional" and said it would be "tragic if a married woman's call for justice is not heard even after 162 years" since the enactment of the Indian Penal Code, Justice Shankar said the exception under the rape law is not "unconstitutional and was based on an intelligible differentia".

Plea against exception

The petitioners had challenged the constitutionality of the marital rape exception under Section 375 IPC (rape) on grounds that it discriminated against married women who are sexually assaulted by their husbands.

Under the exception, sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his wife, the wife not being minor, is not considered rape.

Avian enthusiasts flock together for Himalayan exercise

Unique collaboration reports highest number of bird species from Uttarakhand, followed by Arunachal

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

Uttarakhand reported the highest number of bird species, at 293, while the highest number of checklists (lists of birds seen and heard by birdwatchers), at 192, was uploaded from Jammu & Kashmir, according to the primary report from birdwatchers in the Himalayan regions of India, Nepal and Bhutan who came together for a unique inter-country exercise to document as many birds of the mountain range as possible. The exercise was undertaken on May 14 and a total of 607 species were documented in just one day.

"Birdwatchers from Ladakh, including members of the Wildlife Conservation and Birds Club of Ladakh, spread out in various regions of Ladakh and uploaded 182 checklists. A checklist includes birds seen and heard. Birders from Jammu and Kashmir uploaded 192 checklists.

In just 36 checklists, birdwatchers from Sikkim recorded 157 species.

The Eurasian hobby, one of the birds recorded.

Similarly, 50 checklists yielded a whopping 234 species in Arunachal Pradesh, said Gala Mittal from Bird Count India.

In India, the event was confined to Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, northwest Bengal and Arunachal Pradesh. In many places, birders took groups of people out for birdwatching.

Bird Count India is an informal partnership of organisations and groups interested in documenting and monitoring India's birds. The initiative encourages birdwatchers to upload their bird lists to eBird (ebird.org/india), a global platform for bird observations.

This first edition of the event was co-organised by Bird Count India, Bird Conservation Nepal, and the Royal Society for Protection of Nature, Bhutan.

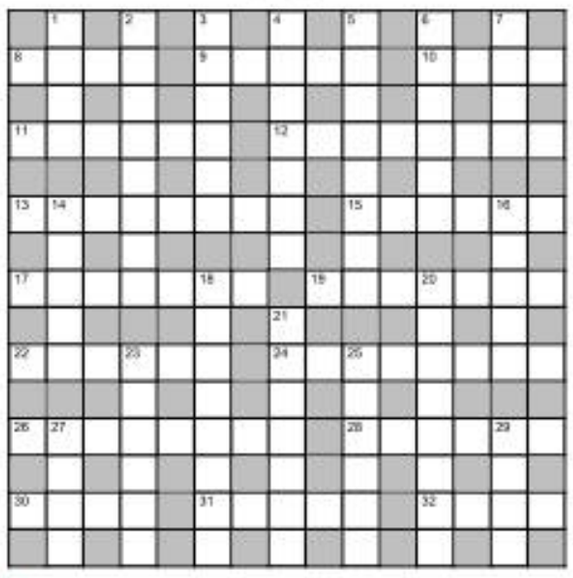
"Himalayan Bird Count can provide consistent, snapshot information of bird diversity in a region that is increasingly threatened by climate change," said Ghazala Shahabuddin, senior fellow with the Centre for Ecology, Development and Research.

TH CROSSWORD + 13559

(set by Incognito)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

8 Vehicle pool (4)
9 Rubbery sap produced by plant after time? Wrong! (5)
10 Extraordinary graduate throwing dart gets fever (4)
11 What one may do with a drum? Scram! (4,2)
12 Swap old coins of low value (8)
13 European representative possesses initial indications showing stress (8)
15 Alliances set up wrongly around one (3-3)
17 Prohibit that lady with English spirit (7)
19 Step by step cooking of guar dal (7)
22 Illuminated Chinese island fruit (6)
24 Indian tribals accompanied by a king with independent city (8)
26 Copied gyrating morris dancer throwing cans (8)
28 Cot carrying little Robert floated up and down (6)
30 Make scary sound, start to terrorise and kick (4)
31 Casual worker's love for speed (5)
32 Birds nesting in Salem, U.S.A. (4)

DOWN

1 Perhaps, horrible animosity towards enemy in the beginning (4)
2 Draws some part of basket/chest (8)
3 Female flower for American president's wife, in short (6)
4 Non-believer in god? Transformed? Eat this! (7)
5 Next to river, copper starts to torture opposing relatives for person authorised to act under testamentary document (8)
6 Coffee shop has a royal liquid container (6)
7 Container contains new variety of bean (4)
14 Military Intelligence with French friend in American city (5)
16 Park redesigned to accommodate knight's lark (5)
18 First German residing in a middle eastern country means to leave one's country (8)
20 "Incapacitated," said incorrectly, "and lost vital fluid" (8)
21 Sad man goes around middle of September giving wreaths to place on heads (7)
23 Churchman's box contains uranium (6)
25 Type of snake egg found in African country (6)
27 Metal found in Adirondack (4)
29 Ceremonial boxing, in Flores island, in small case (4)

SUDOKU

	3				1			
5				4	9	8		3
	2	9		3				
2						1	6	
1	7		4		6		9	5
	6	4						8
				6		9	8	
8		2	1	9				6
			2				7	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13558

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	2	6	1	7	8	4	5	3
7	8	4	6	5	3	1	2	9
3	5	1	4	2	9	7	6	8
1	6	7	2	3	5	9	8	4
8	4	5	9	1	6	2	3	7
2	3	9	7	8	4	5	1	6
6	9	8	5	4	1	3	7	2
4	1	2	3	6	7	8	9	5
5	7	3	8	9	2	6	4	1

FAITH

Parasara Bhatta's intelligence

When a scholar called Sarvajna came to Srirangam to debate with Ramanujacharya's disciples, Parasara Bhatta asked him a question. He said, "Can you guess how much sand there is in my closed palm?" Sarvajna was puzzled, for no one can count grains of sand and arrive at an accurate conclusion. Parasara Bhatta said that all that was required was a simple reply. Sarvajna should have said that Bhatta had a fistful of sand. Instead Sarvajna had said he did not know the answer. Could such a person debate with Ramanuaja's disciples, Bhatta asked. Humbled by the experience, Sarvajna asked Bhatta who his father was, said Thenthirupperai Aravindalochanan in a discourse. When Bhatta replied that Kooraatzhvan was his father, Sarvajna said, "No wonder you are brilliant. Will a baby bird crawl, when its parents soar in the sky?" He then visited Kooratazhvan's residence, and told Andal, Bhatta's mother, that her son was so intelligent, that she would have to take care to ward off evil eyes.

Ramanujacharya had appointed Embar as Bhatta's acharya and Bhatta had been initiated into Sri Vaishnavism by Embar. One day Kooratazhvan was explaining a verse from Thiruvaimozhi, and said that only those who had been initiated by Kooratazhvan into Vaishnavism must stay to be instructed. Bhatta, therefore, prepared to leave. But Kooratazhvan stopped him and said, "It is true that I said only my disciples should listen to my lessons. Your Acharya Embar's house is close by. But in human life, nothing is certain. What if something unfortunate happens before you reach his place? Sacred texts must be learned without delay, because of the sudden twists in life." So devoted was Kooratazhvan to the Sri Vaishnava sampradaya, that he was keen to teach Bhatta the verses of the Azhvars at once.

Mariupol forces taken to Russia-held areas

Moscow calls the operation a mass surrender; Ukraine avoids the word, says mission was completed

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KYIV

Hundreds of Ukrainian fighters, including wounded men carried out on stretchers, left the vast steel plant in Mariupol where they mounted a dogged last stand and turned themselves over to Russian hands, signalling the beginning of the end of the city's siege.

Russia on Tuesday called the operation a mass surrender. The Ukrainians avoided using that word – but said the garrison had completed its mission, and that they were working to pull out the fighters that remain.

On Monday, more than 260 fighters left the Azovstal plant – their last redoubt in Mariupol – and were transported to two towns controlled by Moscow-backed separatists, officials on both sides said. Other fighters – their precise numbers unknown – remain inside the ruins of the fortified mill that sprawls over 11 square km in the otherwise Russian-held city.

End of siege: A convoy of pro-Russian troops tasked with the evacuation of wounded Ukrainian soldiers from the Azovstal steel plant in Mariupol. •REUTERS

Azovstal's fall would mark the complete capture of Mariupol, a significant milestone in one of the bloodiest battles of the war. It would give Russia its biggest victory yet after multiple setbacks – both military and diplomatic. Its troops have suffered costly losses.

Wrapping up Mariupol's capture would give Russia an unbroken land bridge to the Crimean Peninsula, which it annexed from Ukraine in 2014. It could also free up Russian forces for fighting elsewhere.

But Ukraine sought to turn the evacuation into a symbol for its side, too, highlighting the role that the Azovstal fighters played in boosting Ukrainian morale.

"Ukraine needs Ukrainian heroes to be alive. It's our principle," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in announcing that troops had begun leaving the relentlessly bombarded mill and its warren of tunnels and bunkers.

"The work continues to bring the guys home and it requires delicacy and time," he said.

It's not clear what will happen to the fighters – and a Russian official cast doubt over whether Moscow would agree to hand over all of the men in a prisoner of war exchange.

Ukraine Deputy Defense Minister Hanna Maliar said 264 fighters were evacuated from the plant, including 53 "heavily wounded" brought to a medical facility. Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov gave slightly different numbers: 265 evacuees, 51 of them seriously wounded. The discrepancy couldn't immediately be explained.

Finland, Sweden to submit NATO membership bid today

Turkey says it cannot allow them to become members

ASSOCIATED PRESS
STOCKHOLM

Finland and Sweden will submit their bids to join NATO together on Wednesday, the two Nordic countries announced, despite Turkey's threat to block the military alliance's expansion.

"I'm happy we have taken the same path and we can do it together," Ms. Andersson said on Tuesday during a press conference with Finnish President Sauli Niinisto.

The moves by the two Nordic countries, ending Sweden's more than 200 years of military nonalignment and Finland's nonalignment after Second World War, have provoked the ire of the Kremlin.

While most NATO members are keen to welcome the two countries as quickly as possible, Turkey has potentially complicated their accession by saying it cannot allow them to become members because of their perceived inaction against exiled Kurdish militants.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday doubled down on comments last week indicating that the two Nordic countries' path to NATO would be anything but smooth. All 30 current NATO countries must agree to open the door to new members. He accused the two Nordic countries of refusing to extradite "terrorists" wanted by his country.

In Stockholm, Swedish Foreign Minister Ann Linde signed the formal request to join the Alliance, which she said would be sent to NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg.

Niinisto visits Sweden

"It feels like we have taken a decision that is the best for Sweden," she said while signing the document.

Mr. Niinisto was in Sweden for an official two-day visit and was welcomed by Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, who had invited him. Mr. Niinisto addressed Sweden's Parliament and said, "we took peace for granted; on February 24 the peace was broken."

"Our old ways of handling things no longer correspond to the new situation," Mr. Niinisto told Swedish lawmakers. "Our relations with Russia have changed."

He also spoke about Mr. Erdogan's comments, saying they were "surprising and interesting."

"Turkey's statements have changed and toughened very quickly in recent days, but I am sure that we will resolve the situation with the help of constructive talks," Mr. Niinisto said.

U.S. top court declines to stop deportation of Indian citizen

He had claimed to be an American in driver's licence form

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

The United States Supreme Court, on Monday, ruled 5-4 against an Indian citizen who faces deportation from the country for ticking a box on driver's licence application form stating he was a U.S. citizen.

The petitioner, Pankajkumar Patel, had entered the U.S. illegally with his wife, Jyotsnaben, in the 1990s, according to court documents. He had applied to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for discretionary 'adjustment of status' (a step in the green card process) in 2007. USCIS had denied his adjustment application for permanent residence (i.e., a green card) because it was aware that Mr. Patel had falsely stated he was a U.S. citizen on a driver's licence application in the state of Georgia.

The court documents say that the U.S. government started removal proceedings against Mr. Patel years after this. Mr. Patel argued, unsuccessfully, before an immigration judge that he had mistakenly ticked the form and therefore did not violate the law. The judge disagreed. Mr. Patel then appealed the decision with the Board of Immigration Appeals and lost. He then approached a federal appeals court (the Eleventh Circuit) which ruled that it did not have jurisdiction in the case, saying the law did not allow federal courts to review facts discovered during a discretionary-relief proceeding.

A general view of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, U.S. •REUTERS

Mr. Patel eventually petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court in January last year and the court heard oral arguments in December. On Monday, it agreed with the lower court's ruling.

On behalf of the majority, the newest justice on the bench, Amy Coney Barrett, a Trump-appointee wrote, "Federal courts have a very limited role to play in this process. With an exception for legal and constitutional questions, Congress has barred judicial review of the Attorney General's decisions denying discretionary relief from removal."

Ms. Barrett added that "there is room for mercy" and that Congress had given the Attorney General the power to grant relief from deportation in certain cases.

Her fellow conservative justice, Neil Gorsuch, dissented along with the court's three liberal justices, saying the position that federal courts could not review the facts in such cases was bound to have severe consequences.

"It is a bold claim promising dire consequences for countless lawful immigrants," Justice Gorsuch wrote.

The case was brought up during the White House Press Briefing on Monday. Asked if the Biden administration would intervene in the case, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said it would be a matter for the Department of Justice to decide on.

The Patels have three sons, as per court documents, one of whom is a U.S. citizen. The other two are legal permanent residents and married to U.S. citizens.

Gotabaya escapes motion of censure

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's beleaguered President side-stepped a censure motion on Tuesday after his fractured coalition rallied to delay a resolution blaming him for the country's worst economic crisis.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa's shaky coalition voted against taking up the unprecedented "displeasure of Parliament" motion.

The non-binding motion was proposed by the main Opposition Tamil party, the Tamil National Alliance, saying it echoed the demands of thousands of anti-government demonstrators who have for weeks been seeking Mr. Rajapaksa's resignation.

Shortages of food, fuel and medicines, along with record inflation and lengthy blackouts, have brought severe hardships to Sri Lankans, in the worst financial crisis since independence from Britain in 1948.

Taliban dissolve Afghan human rights body

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KABUL

Taliban authorities said they have dissolved Afghanistan's independent human rights commission as it was "not considered necessary". Since the hardline Islamists seized power last August they have closed several bodies that protected the freedoms of Afghans, including the electoral commission and the Ministry for Women's Affairs.

"We have some other organisations to carry out activities related to human rights, organisations that are linked to the judiciary," deputy government spokesman Inamullah Samangani said.

The work of the Rights Commission, which included documenting civilian casualties of Afghanistan's two-decade war, was halted when the Taliban ousted a U.S.-backed government last year and the body's top officials fled the country.

The National Security Council and a reconciliation council that promoted peace were also shut down as the government announced its first annual budget. "These departments are not considered necessary, so they have been dissolved," he said.

'Flight data from China jet points to intentional crash'

REUTERS

Flight data from a black box recovered from a China Eastern jet that crashed earlier this year indicates someone in the cockpit intentionally crashed the jet, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Tuesday, citing people familiar with U.S. officials' preliminary assessment.

The company and the National Transportation Safety Board did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In March, a Boeing 737-800 en route from Kunming to Guangzhou crashed in the mountains of Guangxi, killing 123 passengers and nine crew members in mainland China's deadliest aviation disaster in 28 years.

Following the crash, the airliner grounded 223 Boeing 737-800 jetliners.

Later, China Eastern started putting the fleet back in use for commercial flights. The company said it had conducted systematic tests, structural check-ups and verified airworthiness data for each of the aircraft, and that test flights would be carried out on all planes before they resumed commercial services.

China had retrieved both of the black boxes.

Biden slams 'poison of white supremacy'

REUTERS
BUFFALO

U.S. President Joe Biden on Tuesday condemned white supremacy, the media, the Internet and politics for spreading racist conspiracy theories as he mourned the killing of 10 Black people in Buffalo, New York.

Payton Gendron, an 18-year-old white teenager, is accused of opening fire with a semi-automatic rifle in a predominantly African-American neighbuorhood of Buffalo. Authorities say he carried out an act of "racially motivated violent extremism" on Saturday at the Tops Friendly Market, when he shot 13 people. Gendron has been jailed without bail on a charge of first-degree murder. He pleaded not guilty.

"White supremacy is a poison. It's a poison – it really is – running through our body politic," said Mr. Biden, who spoke moments after meeting with families of the victims as well as first responders. "The ideology of white supremacy has no place in America. None."

Investigators have said that they are looking into Gendron's online postings, which include a 180-page manifesto he is believed to have authored that outlines the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory that white people were intentionally being replaced by minorities through immigration in the United States and elsewhere.

Mr. Biden took aim at replacement theory, an idea with long historical roots in the U.S. that is surging through some conservative political circles now.

"Now is the time for the people of all races, from every background to speak up as a majority of America and reject white supremacy," Mr. Biden said.

"What happened here is simple and straightforward: Terrorism, terrorism, domestic terrorism," he said.

U.S. FDA nod to COVID booster for 5-11 age group

REUTERS

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorised the use of a booster shot of Pfizer and BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine for children aged five to 11, the regulator said on Tuesday.

The approval makes those aged five and above eligible for booster doses, although the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) still needs to sign off on the shots.

Children below the age of five are not yet eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. "While it has largely been the case that COVID-19 tends to be less severe in children than adults, the Omicron wave has seen more kids getting sick with the disease and being hospitalised," FDA Commissioner Robert Califf said.

Just 28.8% of children aged 5 to 11 are fully vaccinated, according to the latest CDC data.

Government of Tamil Nadu
Highways Department,
Chennai Construction and Maintenance Circle
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. 08/2022-2023/HDO/Dated : 17.05.2022

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender through online only** will be received upto **09/06/2022** 12.30 PM by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Chennai Circle for works under Permanent Flood Restoration works 2020 (1 work) and Permanent Flood Mitigation work (2 works) pertaining to Chennai City Roads and under Permanent Flood Mitigation work (1 work) pertaining to Thiruvallur (H) C&M Divisions.

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details will be available from **23/05/2022** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** If any Changes/Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

DIPR / 2330 / TENDER / 2022

Superintending Engineer (H),
C&M, Chennai Circle.

MARKET WATCH

	17-05-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	54,318	2.54
US Dollar	77.44	0.14
Gold	50,282	1.06
Brent oil	112.8	0.52

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	744.75	32.25
Apollo Hosp	3813.15	126.40
Asian Paints	3050.00	50.10
Axis Bank	654.95	16.00
Bajaj Auto	3742.90	27.05
Bajaj Finserv	12972.10	316.85
Bajaj Finance	5837.30	191.90
Bharti Airtel	707.05	13.85
BPCL	342.45	6.35
Britannia Ind	3368.85	83.95
Cipla	938.00	4.60
Coal India	184.55	12.85
Divis Lab	4303.35	85.25
Dr Reddys Lab	3804.00	15.60
Eicher Motors	2706.70	88.75
Grasim Ind	1481.40	29.15
HCL Tech	1082.90	38.35
HDFC	2190.55	18.45
HDFC Bank	1314.00	8.90
HDFC Life	554.85	5.15
Hero MotoCorp	2523.50	27.60
Hindalco	428.40	37.45
Hind Unilever	2245.00	27.75
ICICI Bank	710.00	27.00
Indusind Bank	903.85	17.95
Infosys	1518.45	29.35
ITC	264.70	10.60
JSW Steel	641.85	39.55
Kotak Bank	1840.30	27.45
L&T	1604.10	61.20
M&M	910.80	7.45
Maruti Suzuki	7532.80	285.20
Nestle India Ltd.	16323.40	104.55
NTPC	150.50	2.25
ONGC	163.15	9.65
PowerGrid Corp	238.65	3.45
Reliance Ind	2529.15	101.95
SBI Life	1070.40	25.75
State Bank	467.30	12.30
Shree Cement	22035.80	54.95
Sun Pharma	891.75	6.15
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	734.25	-1.25
Tata Motors	424.15	18.80
Tata Steel	1188.70	85.20
TCS	3451.60	74.80
Tech Mahindra	1198.20	9.15
Titan	2176.35	66.75
UltraTech Cement	6107.75	94.95
UPL	817.35	15.10
Wipro	486.65	18.65

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.36	77.68
Euro	81.29	81.66
British Pound	96.46	96.87
Japanese Yen (100)	59.83	60.07
Chinese Yuan	11.47	11.52
Swiss Franc	77.71	78.03
Singapore Dollar	55.83	56.07
Canadian Dollar	60.37	60.65
Malaysian Ringitt	17.62	17.69
Australian Dollar	54.42	54.66

Source: Indian Bank

Wholesale inflation quickened to record high of 15.1% in April

Price gains at the highest level in current data series spurred by fuel, food costs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Inflation in wholesale prices quickened to 15.1% in April, the fastest pace in the current data series, driven largely by a spike in fuel and food prices, especially of perishables such as fruits, vegetables and milk. The rate was 14.5% in March.

The previous inflation record in the current series of the Wholesale Price Index using 2011-12 as base year was 14.9% in November 2021. There was negligible base effect at work as wholesale price inflation stood at 10.7% last April.

"The all-time high level of wholesale price inflation in April was driven by the rise in prices across the board, with manufactured products and fuel and power leading the charge," said CARE Ratings chief economist Rajani Sinha. Producers are expected to pass on rising costs to consumers, which could push retail inflation even higher from the 95-month high of 7.8% seen in April.

Withering heights: The heatwave sent prices of perishables such as fruits and vegetables soaring. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Fuel and power inflation quickened to 38.7% last month, from March's 34.5%, while manufactured products inflation inched up to 10.9%, from 10.7%, and food price inflation ticked up to 8.9%, from 8.7%.

Primary articles were the only group to see a deceleration in inflation, easing a tad to 15.45%, from 15.54% in March. Petrol and diesel registered a rise of 60.6% and 66.1%, respectively. Among food items, inflation in potatoes was at 19.8%, while vegetables hit 23.2%.

Fruit prices clocked 10.9% inflation, slightly faster than the 10.6% reported in March. Wheat prices rose 10.7% as per official data, cooling off from March's 14% pace.

LIC debuts below issue price while Sensex rallies

Rupee rebounds off intraday record low

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Shares of Life Insurance Corporation of India had a disappointing debut on Tuesday, listing at ₹867 on the BSE, an 8.6% discount to its issue price of ₹949.

India's benchmark stock indices, however, surged more than 2.5%, supported by favourable cues.

The S&P BSE Sensex gained 1,344.63, or 2.54%, to close at 54,318.47 points on buying momentum in heavyweights.

The NSE Nifty-50 index rose 417 points, or 2.63%, to 16,259.30. All the sectors ended with gains.

"Healthy buying across sectors and short-covering supported the market," said Ajit Mishra, VP research at Religare Broking Ltd.

The LIC stock closed at ₹875.45, down 7.75%.

Meanwhile, the rupee hit its lifetime intraday low of 77.79 due to a spike in oil prices and disappointing macroeconomic data. The Indian currency, however, recovered to close 11 paise higher against the dollar aided by the rally in stocks.

(With PTI inputs)

Centre likely to defer April GST deadline

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

As taxpayers face technical glitch on the GST portal, the government on Tuesday said that it was considering extending the April tax payment deadline and had directed Infosys for an early resolution of the problem.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) said a technical glitch had been reported by Infosys in generation of April 2022 GSTR-2B and auto-population of GSTR-3B on portal.

"Infosys has been directed by Govt for early resolution. Technical team is working to provide GSTR-2B & correct auto-populated GSTR-3B at the earliest," the CBIC tweeted.

Bharti Q4 net more than doubles on rise in tariffs

Firm turns FY22 profit of ₹4,255 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel on Tuesday posted a more than twofold jump in its consolidated net profit to ₹2,008 crore for the quarter ended March 31, driven by an increase in average revenue per user (ARPU) following tariff increases and exceptional income.

Total revenue climbed 22.3% to ₹31,500 crore year-on-year.

"Our consolidated revenues for the quarter grew by 5.5% and EBITDA margins expanded to 50.8%, underscoring our focus on all-round delivery," Gopal Vittal, MD and CEO, India & South Asia, said. "The mobile business revenues were up 9.5% as we saw the full flow through of tariff increase. Airtel continues to have the highest ARPU at ₹178," he added. During the quarter, the mobile ARPU increased to ₹178 as against ₹145 a year earlier.

For the full year FY22, the company recorded net profit of ₹4,255 crore against a loss of ₹15,084 crore in the previous fiscal, while revenue climbed 16% to ₹1,16,547 crore.

Not in favour of outright crypto ban: CII's Sanjiv Bajaj

'Allow NBFCs greater leeway to finance India's growth'

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

India should desist from imposing an outright ban on crypto currencies and virtual digital assets, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) president Sanjiv Bajaj said, noting there can be positive uses for such products.

"At CII, we believe these are new, innovative assets or products that are coming out. We should not outright ban them," he said in an interview with *The Hindu*.

"We know they have negatives, but they can create positives as well and they globally connect the world," he said. "So, our suggestion is to monitor and regulate them, perhaps in a sandbox environment, try them out in a more controlled environment and learn from them, and then decide what makes sense and what doesn't," he mooted, adding the country can then assess whether they are beneficial.

Sanjiv Bajaj

One of CII's recommendations to financially support India's growth is to allow non-banking financial firms (NBFCs) to do 'more and more of what banks are allowed to do, with the proper risk-containment measures and supervision in place,' he said, citing such firms' growth over the past decade. On the rupee's decline to record lows, he said whichever way the currency goes, it will add to some firms' costs and benefit others but gradual movement is critical.

"As long as it's not creating a tsunami and volatility is reduced, businesses can take those costs or benefits into account depending on which side of the equation they are in," he added.

Twitter's account shows Musk in a rush to 'sign'

'Musk did not seek any non-public info'

REUTERS

Twitter Inc. published its account on Tuesday of deal negotiations with Elon Musk, showing he opted out of asking the questions about the company's business he has now cited in declaring the $44 billion acquisition is "on hold".

The account, published in Twitter's proxy statement outlining what shareholders need to know to vote on the deal, shows Mr. Musk in a rush to clinch a deal and makes no mention of threats he has tweeted about nixing the deal if he does not get to the bottom of how many spam accounts the platform has.

Since signing the deal on April 25, Mr. Musk has questioned the accuracy of Twitter's public filing about spam accounts representing less than 5% of its user base, claiming they must be at least 20%.

Elon Musk

"Mr. Musk did not ask to enter into a confidentiality agreement or seek from Twitter any non-public info regarding Twitter," Twitter said in its proxy statement.

IN BRIEF

No tax on $6.38-bn deal with Adani, says Holcim

NEW DELHI

Swiss building material major Holcim said its $6.38 billion deal with Gautam Adani's group was tax-free. Holcim on Sunday signed a binding agreement with the Adani Group to sell its business in India – about a 63% stake in Ambuja Cement – which owns a 54.53 stake in ACC. PTI

Hyundai, Tata Power to set up EV charging infra

NEW DELHI

Hyundai Motor India announced a partnership with Tata Power to set up electric vehicle (EV)-charging Infrastructure. Hyundai said it plans to facilitate installation of Tata Power's DC 60 kW fast chargers across 34 of its EV dealer locations in 29 cities, in addition to the existing AC 7.2 kW chargers and aims to expand the network across dealerships.

Abu Dhabi's IHC invests $2 bn in Adani

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Abu Dhabi's International Holding Company PJSC (IHC) has invested ₹15,400 crore ($2 billion) as primary capital in three Adani portfolio companies – Adani Green Energy Ltd. (AGEL), Adani Transmission Ltd. (ATL) and Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL).

IHC has invested ₹3,850 crore each in AGEL and ATL and ₹7,700 crore in AEL, the Indian conglomerate said.

IHC has completed "a ₹15,400 crore investment transaction in AGEL, ATL and AEL," the Adani Group said in a statement.

Centre amends curbs on export of wheat

Cargo listed before May 13 can sail out

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Centre has amended its wheat export ban order of May 13 to allow export consignments that were registered in the Customs Department's systems and handed over for examination on or prior to May 13 to be shipped out, the Commerce and Industry Ministry said on Tuesday.

The government also allowed shipment of a wheat consignment headed for Egypt, which was already under loading at the Kandla port, following a request by the Egyptian government. A bulk of the 61,500-metric tonne (MT) wheat consignment had been loaded for shipping to Egypt.

The Centre has now permitted the exporter to load the remaining 17,160 (MT) so that the full consignment can sail out. Reiterating the intent behind last week's ban order, the Ministry said the decision would ensure food security and rein in inflation, while maintaining India's reliability as a supplier as it would help other nations facing food deficits.

The order also aimed to provide a clear direction to the wheat market to prevent hoarding of wheat supplies, the Ministry asserted.

Russia jumps to fourth in India oil supply

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

Russia became the fourth-largest oil supplier to India in April, with volumes set to rise further in coming months as low prices spur demand from the world's No. 3 oil consumer and importer, tanker tracking data showed.

Russia's share in India's oil purchases rose to a record 6%, about 2,77,000 barrels per day (bpd) in April, up from about 66,000 bpd in March, when it was in 10th position, according to the data, which was supplied by trade sources. The share of U.S. almost halved to 3%.

PM Modi unveils country's first 5G testbed

Urges start-ups to test products locally

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday inaugurated the country's first 5G testbed that will enable start-ups and industry players to test their products locally, thereby reducing dependence on facilities outside the country.

Speaking at the silver jubilee celebrations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the PM said the 5G testbed, which had been set up at a cost of about ₹220 crore, was an important step towards self-reliance in the direction of critical and modern technologies in the telecom sector.

"I invite the young colleagues of the country, researchers, and companies to use this testing facility to build 5G technology. This is a great opportunity, especially for our start-ups to test their products," he said.

The PM added that India's own 5G standard – in the form of 5Gi – was a matter of great pride for the country, and would play a big role in taking 5G technology to the villages.

"For rapid roll-out of 5G, efforts of both government and the industry are needed," he added.

OTT firm MX Player eyes 250-mn users

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

OTT firm MX Player, which offers web series, music, gaming and short videos free of cost to users, has set a target to increase its domestic user base by 50 million to 250 million this year, a top executive said.

It is a free ecosystem downloadable app, wherein most people can consume content free of cost.

"Our profitability is slated for the next 24-36 months and the scale we are looking at achieving this year is the first stepping stone to that," Nikhil Gandhi, COO, MX Media Private Ltd. said.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka: 1st Test, day 4, FanCode, 9.30 a.m.
Hockey: Pro League, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3 p.m. & 5 p.m.
IPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Europa League: (final), Sony Ten 2 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Thursday).

IN BRIEF

Joshna withdraws from squash Worlds

CAIRO

Joshna Chinappa on Tuesday withdrew from the pre-quarterfinals of the PSA World squash championships due to illness. Joshna, seeded 12th, was scheduled to face local favourite and eight seed Rowan Elaraby. PTI

Newcastle derails Arsenal's bid

Chiellini's emotional farewell in Juventus' draw with Lazio

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEWCASTLE

Arsenal's exile from the Champions League looks set to stretch into a sixth season after losing 2-0 at Newcastle on Monday. Tottenham remains two points above in fourth place in the Premier League.

Spurs now realistically only need a draw away to Norwich on Sunday to secure a top-four finish thanks to superior goal difference.

Arsenal's defeat also guaranteed third-place Chelsea's spot in the Champions League next season.

Juventus captain Giorgio Chiellini bid goodbye to the club's fans during a 2-2 draw with Lazio in Serie A on Monday. After 17 seasons, Chiellini recently announced he was leaving and this was the Bianconeri's final home game of the campaign.

Adieu: Chiellini with his kids after his final game. • GETTY IMAGES

When Chiellini came off in the 17th minute, he took off his armband and placed it on Paulo Dybala – another player likely to leave Juventus – then blew kisses to the crowd and hugged his teammates, and even one Lazio player. Chiellini then went along the stands to shake hands with fans. Sergej Milinkovic-Savic scored in the final second for Lazio to secure a Europa League spot for the Roman club.

The results:

Premier League: Newcastle 2 (White 55-og, Guimaraes 85) bt Arsenal 0.

Serie A: Juventus 2 (Vlahovic 10, Morata 36) drew with Lazio 2 (Alex Sandro 51-og, Milinkovic-Savic 90+5); Sampdoria 4 (Ferrari 16, Quagliarella 30, Thorsby 71, Sabiri 84) bt Fiorentina 1 (Gonzalez 89).

Odisha bests Karnataka, clinches the title

Jharkhand weathers Haryana fightback to take the third spot

HOCKEY

SPORTS BUREAU

Odisha claimed the honours at the 12th Hockey India senior women's National championship in Bhopal on Tuesday with a 2-0 win against Karnataka in the final that saw both teams struggling in the hot conditions.

Goalless at half-time, Odisha finally found things going its way four minutes after resumption when Punam Barla managed to find the net past the Karnataka defence.

The first half had been erratic with Odisha even missing a penalty stroke in the 20th minute but in less than ideal conditions, Karnataka could not take advantage, committing errors of its own.

Trophy time: The victorious Odisha team. • A.M. FARUQUI

The first-time finalist earned a penalty corner as well in the fourth quarter as it finally went all out in a desperate attempt to level scores but was unable to convert it. Instead, it was Odisha that managed to find a foot in the opposition circle and earned a PC of its own in the 59th minute, Ashim Kanchan Barla making no mistake in sealing the game in her team's favour.

In the play-off for the third spot, Jharkhand beat Haryana 3-2 despite some desperate fightback from the latter in the last 10 minutes.

Jharkhand appeared cruising for an easy victory at the end of third quarter with a 3-0 lead and content defending it but Haryana, having missed a handful of chances early on, was not ready to give up.

Two goals in as many minutes, one of them off a penalty stroke in the 56th, saw Jharkhand snapping up to scramble its defence and avoid a shootout, managing to hold off the opposition for the remaining period to deny them. This is the first time Haryana has failed to win a medal since 2016.

The results:

Final: Odisha 2 (Punam Barla, Ashim Kanchan Barla) bt Karnataka 0.

Third/fourth place: Jharkhand 3 (Dipti Toppo, Albela Rani Toppo, Betan Dungdung) bt Haryana 2 (Amandeep Kaur, Bharti Saroha).

'Epic triumph is for the next generation'

Wanted to change the perception that we were not a force to reckon with, says Prannoy

THOMAS CUP

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

"It has been an incredible journey. Never thought this could happen. We were thinking of winning a medal but not definitely gold," said H.S. Prannoy, one of the architects of India's historic triumph in the Thomas Cup in Bangkok.

"It was a collective effort and a result of a decade-long effort of Gopi sir (chief national coach and now BAI vice-president).

"He changed the badminton scene with all his hard work," Prannoy told *The Hindu*.

"It was he (Gopi) who saw that we could compete against the world's best. Credit also goes to the entire support staff in Hyderabad who have been working tirelessly with all the players at the Gopi Academy," the World No. 23 said.

"I think one of the secrets of India's success in the Thomas Cup is that everyone gave more than 100%. Importantly, we wanted to change the perception that we were not a force to reckon with. So, in this context, this epic triumph is for the next generation about what we can do at this level," the 29-year-old Prannoy said.

"Each match was very crucial. Importantly, every singles player and the doubles combination of Satwik and Chirag rose to the occasion when the team looked up to them," he said.

Lakshya was special

"Lakshya was special under pressure and Srikanth came up with one of his best displays consistently throughout the championship," said Prannoy.

Speaking about his performance which saw him pull off thrilling wins in the quarterfinals and semifinals (despite an injury), Prannoy said he had nothing to prove to anyone.

"I am extremely thankful to BAI for giving me the chance. And I am glad to have contributed to the team's victory," he said.

Fighting pain

"There was never a thought of quitting despite the injury in the semifinal.

"Initially there was a lot of pain, but I was in no mood to give up. Luckily, from the second game onwards I was feeling more comfortable," he said.

His performance was decisive in taking India to the final.

On team bonding, Prannoy said as senior players Srikanth and he stepped up a bit.

"That is what needs to change. Honestly, I never believed this kind of bonding would happen. Well, we all believed we had the firepower to win the Thomas Cup," he said.

Vital cog: Prannoy played a key role in India's historic Thomas Cup win. • AP

Tripathi, Garg and Umran shine as Sunrisers pip Mumbai Indians, keep hopes alive

The No. 3 batter slams a 44-ball 76 while the opener scores 42 off 26 deliveries; the Hyderabad pacer scalps three to put the skids on the chase; David's knock in vain

IPL 2022

AYAN ACHARYA
MUMBAI

Sunrisers Hyderabad beat Mumbai Indians by three runs at the Wankhede Stadium on Tuesday to avoid a sixth consecutive loss and stay mathematically alive in the IPL 2022 playoffs race.

Chasing a target of 194, Mumbai Indians needed 45 from 18 balls when Tim David threatened to swing the game the team's way by hammering T. Natarajan for four sixes, including three successive ones, in the 18th over.

However, in an attempt to retain the strike for the penultimate over, David took off for a single off the last ball and was run out by the bowler, effectively ending Mumbai Indians' hopes.

Defending a big total, Sunrisers used four different bowlers in the PowerPlay, but the Mumbai Indians openers were not bothered by the frequent bowling changes. Rohit Sharma (48, 36b, 2x4, 4x6) crunched Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Natarajan for sixes while Ishan Kishan (43, 34b, 5x4, 1x6) hit Natarajan for two fours to take Mumbai Indians to 51 for no loss in six overs.

Umran Malik's introduction in the ninth over sparked life into the Sunrisers attack. Despite going for 14 in his first over, Umran hurried both batters with short-pitched balls. Mumbai Indians had brought the equation down to 105 off 60 when Rohit was caught off Washington Sundar. Umran then dismissed Ishan, Tilak Varma and Daniel Sams to finish with three for 23 and become the Indian pacer with most wickets (21) this season. Umran's spell proved the difference between the sides.

Earlier, after Rohit asked Sunrisers to bat, Sams and Riley Meredith denied the openers, Priyam Garg (42, 26b, 4x4, 2x6) and Abhishek Sharma, scoring opportunities. The breakthrough came when Abhishek miscued a lofted shot and offered a simple catch.

That brought Rahul Tripathi (76, 44b, 9x4, 3x6) to the crease. He got stuck into Jasprit Bumrah in the PowerPlay, scoring 14 off the last three balls of the pacer's first over. Garg got a reprieve when a miscommunication between Bumrah and Sanjay resulted in a dropped catch at fine-leg. Garg then swivelled a pull over fine-leg for six as Sunrisers ended the PowerPlay overs with 57.

Garg employed the sweep quite often, slog-sweeping Sanjay Yadav for a six before reverse-sweeping Mayank Markande for a four.

In the spotlight: David nearly pulled it off for Mumbai Indians after Tripathi blazed away for Sunrisers. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Mumbai Indians' sixth bowler Ramandeep Singh took a sharp return catch to end Garg's stay and break the 78-run second-wicket stand.

With Sunrisers 97 for two, Nicholas Pooran had the luxury of overs and wickets in hand, something that has not often been the case with the Hyderabad side this season. The freedom translated into big hits as Pooran smashed Meredith for consecutive sixes. Tripathi brought up his 50 off 32 balls before hitting Sams for a six and two fours in the 16th over. Markande's catch at deep backward square-leg sent back Pooran (38, 22b, 2x4, 3x6) and ended the 76-run stand with Tripathi, who holed out off Ramandeep (three for 20). Mumbai's superb death-bowling meant Sunrisers scored just 45 and lost four wickets in the final five overs. However, 193 was three more than what its opponent could manage.

SCOREBOARD

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD
Abhishek Sharma c Markande b Sams 9 *(10b, 1x4)*, Priyam Garg c & b Ramandeep 42 *(26b, 4x4, 2x6)*, Rahul Tripathi c Tilak b Ramandeep 76 *(44b, 9x4, 3x6)*, Nicholas Pooran c Markande b Meredith 38 *(22b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Aiden Markram c David b Ramandeep 2 *(4b)*, Kane Williamson (not out) 8 *(7b, 1x4)*, Washington Sundar b Bumrah 9 *(7b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-5): 9; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 193.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-18 (Abhishek, 2.4 overs), 2-96 (Garg, 9.5), 3-172 (Pooran, 16.5), 4-174 (Tripathi, 17.2), 5-175 (Markram, 17.6), 6-193 (Washington, 19.6).

MUMBAI INDIANS BOWLING
Sams 4-0-39-1, Meredith 4-0-44-1, Sanjay Yadav 2-0-23-0, Bumrah 4-0-32-1, Markande 3-0-31-0, Ramandeep 3-0-20-3.

MUMBAI INDIANS
Rohit Sharma c sub (Suchith) b Washington 48 *(36b, 2x4, 4x6)*, Ishan Kishan c Garg b Umran 43 *(34b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Daniel Sams c Garg b Umran 15 *(17b, 1x6)*, Tilak Varma c Williamson b Umran 8 *(9b, 1x4)*, Tim David run out 46 *(18b, 3x4, 4x6)*, Tristan Stubbs run out 2 *(2b)*, Ramandeep Singh (not out) 14 *(6b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Sanjay Yadav c sub (Suchith) b Bhuvneshwar 0 *(2b)*, Jasprit Bumrah (not out) 0 *(4b)*; Extras (b-1, lb-3, w-8, nb-2): 14; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 190.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-95 (Rohit, 10.4), 2-101 (Kishan, 11.3), 3-123 (Tilak, 14.1), 4-127 (Sams, 14.6), 5-144 (Stubbs, 16.4), 6-175 (David, 17.6), 7-175 (Sanjay, 18.2)

SUNRISERS BOWLING
Farooqi 4-0-31-0, Bhuvneshwar 4-1-26-1, Washington 4-0-36-1, Natarajan 4-0-60-0, Umran 3-0-23-3, Abhishek 1-0-10-0.

Toss: MI. **MoM:** Rahul Tripathi.
Sunrisers won by three runs.

Innings scan

SRH		MI
38	Dots	44
17	Fours	12
8	Sixes	11
57/1	PP	51/0
9.65	RR	9.50

Next assignment

MI: May 21 vs. **DC**
Wankhede, 7.30 p.m.

SRH: May 22 vs. **PBKS**
Wankhede, 7.30 p.m.

POINTS TABLE

Team	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans (Q)	13	10	3	**20**	0.391
Rajasthan Royals	13	8	5	**16**	0.304
Lucknow Super Giants	13	8	5	**16**	0.262
Delhi Capitals	13	7	6	**14**	0.255
Royal Challengers Bangalore	13	7	6	**14**	-0.323
Kolkata Knight Riders	13	6	7	**12**	0.160
Punjab Kings	13	6	7	**12**	-0.043
Sunrisers Hyderabad	13	6	7	**12**	-0.230
Chennai Super Kings (E)	13	4	9	**8**	-0.206
Mumbai Indians (E)	13	3	10	**6**	-0.577

AFTER THE MI-SRH MATCH ON MAY 17 — *Q: QUALIFIED; E: ELIMINATED*

Battle on: Rahul and Shreyas will be eager to lead from the front in a crucial game for both teams. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

LSG looks to seal top-four spot

Rahul and de Kock need to fire, KKR pins hopes on Shreyas

SHAYAN ACHARYA
NAVI MUMBAI

Lucknow Super Giants has one foot at the playoffs and when the K.L. Rahul-led team takes on Kolkata Knight Riders at the DY Patil Stadium on Wednesday, it would be aiming to seal its spot in the top-four.

Placed at the third spot with 16 points, Lucknow lost its last two games - against Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals - and captain Rahul admits "there is a bit of pressure" going forward.

In the last two outings, Lucknow batters struggled in the Powerplay and the team will largely depend on Rahul and Quinton de Kock to regain their touch. While the middle-order is anchored by Deepak Hooda, Krunal Pandya and Ayush Badoni need to be consistent.

TODAY'S MATCH

KKR vs. LSG
DY PATIL, 7.30 P.M.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 1
KKR 0 | LSG 1
Previous meeting
LSG won by 75 runs, 2022
STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

For the Knights, too, it is a must-win match. However, even if it wins against Super Giants, KKR can only make it to the playoffs if both Royal Challengers Bangalore and Delhi Capitals lose their games against Gujarat Titans and Mumbai Indians.

But keeping the calculations aside, KKR aims to defeat Lucknow and for that it has its hopes pinned on the all-round abilities of Andre Russell. With Ajinkya Rahane ruled out of the tournament due to an injury, KKR's top-order needs to fire and a lot will depend on how Shreyas Iyer and Nitish Rana fare against Lucknow bowlers - Avesh Khan and Mohsin Khan. In the absence of Pat Cummins, Umesh Yadav and Tim Southee will spearhead KKR's bowling, while the spin duo of Sunil Narine and Varun Chakravarthy needs to be in their element.

QUICK SINGLES

Parnell returns to South Africa team

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa on Tuesday recalled Wayne Parnell for the T20I tour of India from June 9.

The squad: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Quinton de Kock, Reeza Hendricks, Heinrich Klaasen, Keshav Maharaj, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Lungi Ngidi, Anrich Nortje, Wayne Parnell, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan Stubbs, Rassie van der Dussen and Marco Jansen. AP

Tamim's hundred frustrates Sri Lanka

CHITTAGONG

Mushfiqur Rahim and Liton Das struck fifties after Tamim Iqbal made a hundred to put Bangladesh in pole position in the first Test against Sri Lanka here on Tuesday. Liton hit 54 not out and Mushfiqur made 53 not out as the pair added 98 runs in an unbroken stand to guide Bangladesh to 318 for three at stumps on the third day, in reply to Sri Lanka's first innings 397. Tamim retired on 133 after reaching his 10th Test hundred with a four and single off Asitha Fernando.

The scores: Sri Lanka 397 in 153 overs vs Bangladesh 318/3 in 107 overs (Tamim Iqbal 133 retd. hurt, Mahmudul Hasan Joy 58, Liton Das 54 batting, Mushfiqur Rahim 53 batting.

Injured Rahane out of IPL-15

MUMBAI

Kolkata Knight Riders batter Ajinkya Rahane has been ruled out of the remainder of the IPL, owing to a hamstring injury, the franchise said on Tuesday. In an official announcement posted on its Twitter handle, KKR said, "Ajinkya Rahane is going to miss the remaining games of IPL 2022 due to a hamstring injury. Wish you a speedy recovery. The Knights camp will miss you."

Rahane had undergone scans, which revealed that he had torn his tendon. In a video posted in the same tweet, Rahane said, "I really enjoyed my time on and off the field with everyone." PTI

A player of 60s vintage who showed us what 2020s might be like

BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

It is impossible to be objective about death. If it involves an accident that ends a sportsman's life prematurely, you think about his family; then you ask, did he live up to potential? That question can seldom be answered in the positive, for it is human nature to believe that the next event will be the determining one, the next assignment will establish the legacy.

Those who play sport at the highest level are judged by performance and not on potential. Once a career is over, there is no room for could-have-beens. Whatever problems the late Shane Warne had outside the sport, he will always count as one of the all-time greats, his 708 Test wickets testimony to that. Did he live up to potential? It doesn't matter. What we know is good enough to guarantee him a place among the finest.

Andrew Symonds was a cricketer of 1960s vintage who played in the 2000s and showed us what the 2020s might be like. He was a throwback to an age where the sport wasn't an all-consuming task-master, and accommodated a wider variety of temperaments. But he played like a post-modern cricketer, with his big hitting and ability to throw down the stumps from any angle.

Living life on his terms

The fatal car accident also took away someone who lived life on his own terms, even if it meant a shorter career in cricket with unfulfilled promises. Former Aussie captain Mark Taylor said of Symonds: "He wanted to go out there and have fun and play the game he played as a kid. At times he got in trouble for not going to training or having a few too many beers but that is the way he lived his life..."

Did the 'Monkeygate' controversy (Symonds claimed India's Harbhajan Singh had racially abused him during a Sydney Test) effectively finish his Australia career? His captain, Ricky Ponting thought so; Symonds felt let down by his cricket board which didn't back him. But swings and roundabouts, a few seasons in the IPL made him millions.

Symonds was a great all-round fielder, one of the hardest hitting batsmen, and bowled both off spin and medium pace. He could have finished as one of Australia's greatest all-rounders, to be spoken of in the same breath as Keith Miller, a similarly flamboyant character. But he didn't fit in snugly in the uber-professional times he played in, making no secret of the fact that sometimes he would rather go fishing.

It made for a combination of man and player who was simultaneously both an anachronism and a herald of the future.

Andrew Symonds.

The T20 revolution arrived towards the end of his career; a younger Symonds would have staked a claim to being among the finest in the format, his skills spread over a wider range than most.

He was the highest-paid overseas player in the inaugural IPL. He could have been a first-choice player in an all-time white ball team, but his career had the feel of a Formula One car being driven at less than maximum speed.

There might be harder hitters of the ball today, better off spinners, superior medium pacers, more energetic fielders even - but not all these skills are invested in the same person like they were with Symonds. The all-rounder once got into trouble when he decided to go fishing rather than attend a team meeting ahead of a game against Bangladesh.

Taking a cut

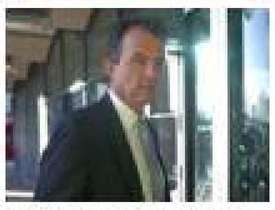
He also agreed to take a cut (20% was the figure mentioned) in his fees if it freed him from public relations duties with corporates and gave him more time to go fishing. A modern cricketer voluntarily taking a pay cut? This is a rarity. And it brings mind to something Richie Benaud wrote in the 1980s about past players (in every generation) always claiming that they had more fun, that the current crop didn't enjoy the game as much as they did.

Benaud's response to this was unequivocal. "When next you hear someone moaning that the modern day cricketer doesn't enjoy himself as much," he wrote, "put it down to wishful thinking on the part of golden oldies living in the past..."

Still, would any contemporary player take a pay cut to free up time to attend a season of classical music, or participate in a safari or anything that is a passion with him? Cricket, like all modern professional sport, is a demanding master. The amateur spirit is looked down upon, enjoyment is for the birds. Time spent away from the game and training is often seen as time wasted.

Yet Symonds was a reminder that while cricket may have been his life, his life wasn't cricket. He was the answer to old-timers' notions of modern players who eschewed all fun and enjoyment in pursuit of success - however they defined it.

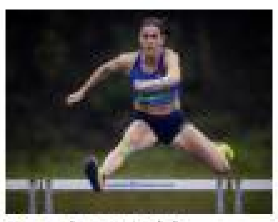
IN BRIEF



ECB CEO Tom Harrison to step down

LONDON

Tom Harrison is to step down as chief executive of the England and Wales Cricket Board in June —part of a major overhaul following a slump in Test results. Clare Connor, currently managing director of England women's cricket, will take over on an interim basis, the ECB announced on Tuesday. AFP



Two-time World champion hurdler Hejnova retires

PRAGUE

Two-time 400 metres hurdles World champion Zuzana Hejnova said on Tuesday she was hanging up her spikes as she is pregnant. The 35-year-old Czech won gold at the 2013 and 2015 World Championships and bronze at the London Olympics in 2012. AFP

Asian Para Games postponed

BEIJING

The Asian Para Games, scheduled to take place from October 9 to 15 in Hangzhou, China have been postponed due to concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic, the organisers officially announced on Tuesday. PTI

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Recognising excellence: Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai felicitated Thomas Cup winner Lakshya Sen, and presented the champion shuttler with a ₹5 lakh cheque for his feat, at his residence on Tuesday. •PTI

de Villiers and Gayle in RCB Hall of Fame

AB de Villiers and Chris Gayle became the inaugural inductees of the 'Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) of Fame', the franchise announced on Tuesday. The inductees are "heroes who have worn the red and gold jersey over the years and contributed immensely to the growth of the franchise," an RCB statement read.

Naba stuns Aarna

Naba Nishan ousted second seed Aarna Raj 6-1, 6-3 in the girls' first round of the SAT Sports-AITA CS7 U-14 tennis tournament at SAT Sports Academy courts here on Tuesday.

Tarun, Deepika win 10km individual time trial

Tarun Vittal and Deepika Sanjeev won the 10km individual time trial cycling boys' and girls' events respectively in the in the State Mini Olympic Games here on Tuesday.

Other results (winners): Weightlifting: Girls: 45kg: Shrushti Sunil; **49kg:** Sameeksh Laxman; **55 kg:** A. Sinchana; **81 kg:** Himagouri Jamadar

Archery: 20m: Boys: Praful Aravind; **Girls:** G. Sinchana

Swimming: Girls: 400m freestyle: Naisha (4:53.59s); **50m breaststroke:** Vihitha Nayana (35.06s); **100m breaststroke:** Vihitha Nayana (1:19.06s); **100m backstroke:** Siddhi Gautam (1:12:53s); **200m backstroke:** D. Dhindhi (2:34:41s); **100m butterfly:** B.S. Janya (1:10:55s).

Facile win for Six Academy

Six Academy defeated NICE CA by 10 wickets in the under-12 section of the Save Water Cup cricket organised by Gopalan Sports Cricket Academy here.

The scores: NICE CA 108/3 in 20.0 overs (Vishal George 40, Aarya Raj 36 n.o.) lost to Six Academy 109/0 in 17.0 overs (Avaneesh 59 n.o., Siddhant Srikant 32 n.o.).

Abhishek places third

ARCHERY

SPORTS BUREAU

Compound archer Abhishek Verma placed third with 709 points in individual ranking rounds of the Archery World Cup Stage-2 at Gwangju, Korea, on Tuesday.

Other placings: Men: Aman Saini (702, 13th), Rajat Chauhan (698, 31st) and Mohan Bhardwaj (694, 42nd). **Women:** Avneet Kaur (689, 14th), Muskan Kirar (689, 15th), Priya Gurjar (675, 35th) and Ragini Marko (673, 38th). **Team:** Men (2109, 4th), Women (2053, 5th) and mixed (1398, 6th).

Ravi, Bajrang in CWG squad

WRESTLING

Y.B. SARANGI
KOLKATA

Olympic medallists Ravi Kumar Dahiya and Bajrang Punia won the selection trials to make it to the Indian men's wrestling squad for the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

Meanwhile, according to an eye witness, an angry Satyender Malik assaulted referee Jagbir Singh following a contentious decision in the 125kg final. The Wrestling Federation of India lodged an FIR and then handed a life ban to the wrestler.

The squad: 57kg: Ravi Kumar Dahiya; **65kg:** Bajrang Punia; **74kg:** Naveen; **86kg:** Deepak Punia; **97kg:** Deepak; **125kg:** Mohit Grewal.

SNAPSHOTS

Indian women win 25-metre sports pistol gold

SUHL (GERMANY)

The Indian team of Esha Singh, Rhythm Sangwan and Manu Bhaker outplayed Germany 16-2 to clinch the team gold in 25-metre sports pistol in the Junior World Cup shooting in Suhl, Germany, on Tuesday.

In 50-metre rifle 3-position mixed team event, Pankaj Mukheja and Sift Kaur Samra were beaten 16-12 in the gold match by Michal Chojnowski and Julia Ewa Piotrowska of Poland.

In the women's team competition in the 50-metre rifle 3-position event, the trio of Nischal, Ashi Chouksey and Sift Kaur Samra claimed bronze behind Germany and Poland.

India took its tally to 11 gold, 13 silver and four bronze, for a total of 28 medals. The second best team was Italy with four gold and five bronze.

The results: 25m sports pistol: Women: 1. India (Manu Bhaker, Rhythm Sangwan, Esha Singh) 16 (431) 864; 2. Germany (Michaela Boesl, Vanessa Seeger, Mia Fuchs) 2 (437) 858; 3. Italy 17 (429) 851 4. Norway 3 (408) 800.

50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Germany 16 (880) 1320; 2. Poland 12 (873) 1301; 3. India (Nischal, Ashi Chouksey, Sift Kaur Samra) 16 (864) 1309; 4. Czech Republic 10 (868) 1292.

Mixed: 1 11. India (Ashi Chouksey, Avinash Yadav) 864.

Skeet: Women: Parinaaz Dhaliwal 20 (109); 12. Areeba Khan 105; 15. Darshna Rathore 104.

Tamil Nadu begins well

Host Tamil Nadu scripted a 3-1 win over Chhattisgarh in a Pool G match of the 12th Hockey India junior National (men) championship at Kovilpatti on Tuesday.

The results: Pool E: Bihar 11 bt Assam 1; Arunachal 5 bt J&K 0.**Pool G:** Jharkhand 10 bt Goans Hockey 0; TN 3 bt Chhattisgarh 1.

Golden girls: Esha, Rhythm, and Manu Bhaker with the sports pistol team yellow medal. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sania & Hradecka advance

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Top seeds Sania Mirza and Lucie Hradecka overcame a hard start to beat Lyudmyla Kichenok & Tereza Mihalikova 3-6, 6-3, [10-8] in the doubles first rounf of the € 203,024 WTA tennis tournament in France on Tuesday.

The results: First round: € 203,024 WTA, Strasbourg, France: Lucie Hradecka (Cze) & Sania Mirza bt Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukr) & Tereza Mihalikova (Svk) 3-6, 6-3, [10-8].

$53,120 Challenger, Shymkent, Kazakhstan: Evgeny Kkarlovskiy bt Arjun Kadhe 6-4, 4-6, 6-1; Beibit Zhukayev (Kaz) bt Sasikumar Mukund 6-1, 7-6(11).

$25,000 ITF men, Uncinj, Montenegro: Alex Barrena (Arg) bt Niki Poonacha 6-2, 6-2.

$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Mathieu Scaglia (Fra) bt Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam 6-3, 6-1.

$15,000 ITF, Oran, Algeria: Men: Ishaque Eqbal bt Tushar Madan 6-1, 6-4; Jagmeet Singh bt George Gregoriou (Gre) 6-1, 6-7(3), 6-4; Mirko Martinez (Sui) bt Parth Aggarwal 7-5, 6-3; Leo Borg (Swe) bt Mohit Bhardwaj 6-3, 6-2; Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Mehdi Sadaoui (Fra) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Women: Weronika Jasmina Forys (Pol) bt Snehal Mane 4-6, 7-6(5), 6-2.

$25,000 ITF women, Montemor-O-Novo, Portugal: Mila Masic (Srb) bt Vasanti Shinde 3-6, 6-2, 6-0.

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Eligibility & Salary : As per norms. Higher salary may be considered to the eminent & visionary having outstanding academic and research record. Apply within 15 days withdetailed resume with testimonials to: **mgrprincipal@yahoo.co.in**
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Advt. No. 1/2022-23

1. Applications are invited for recruitment to following posts in the Reserve Bank of India.

S. No.	Posts	Vacancies
	Panel Year 2021	
1	Curator in Grade 'A'	01
2	Architect on full time contract	01
3	Fire Officer in Grade 'A'	01

2. For all other details such as eligibility criteria, reservation of vacancies, scheme of selection, submission of on-line application and other instructions, please refer to the detailed advertisement to be published on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in) on May 23, 2022 and in the Employment News/ Rozgar Samachar issue dated May 21, 2022/ Subsequent issue. Candidates can apply for these posts only by online mode through the Bank's website.

3. IMPORTANT DATES:

Online Application Link:	
Opening of website link for online application submission by the applicants	May 23, 2022
Closing date of online application submission	June 13, 2022
Online Examination for Fire Officer in Grade 'A'	July 09, 2022

NOTE: Corrigendum, if any, issued on the above advertisement, will be published only on the Bank's website. (Hindi version of this advertisement will be available in Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, Rajasthan Patrika and Navbharat Times)

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